THOSE WHO HUNT ELVES

4

CREATOR YU YAGAMI

The dangerous and thrilling adventure continues with the slam-bang action you've come to expect from

Those Who Hunt Elves!

YU YAGAMI

PRESENTS

Those Who Hunt Elves

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FSHOOo
ュウウゥ..

.....
HE WAS THE EIGHTH ONE.
DAMN .

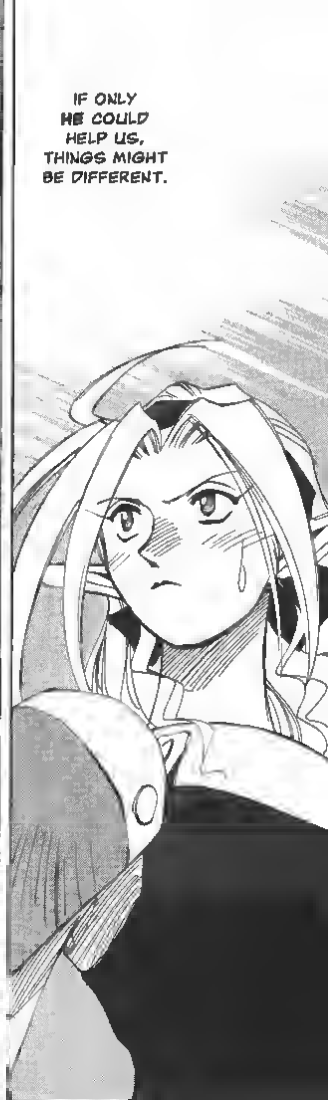
EXCEPT...
NOBODY CAN STOP IT NOW.
WE'RE TOO LATE.

GAARGH!
VGORRR

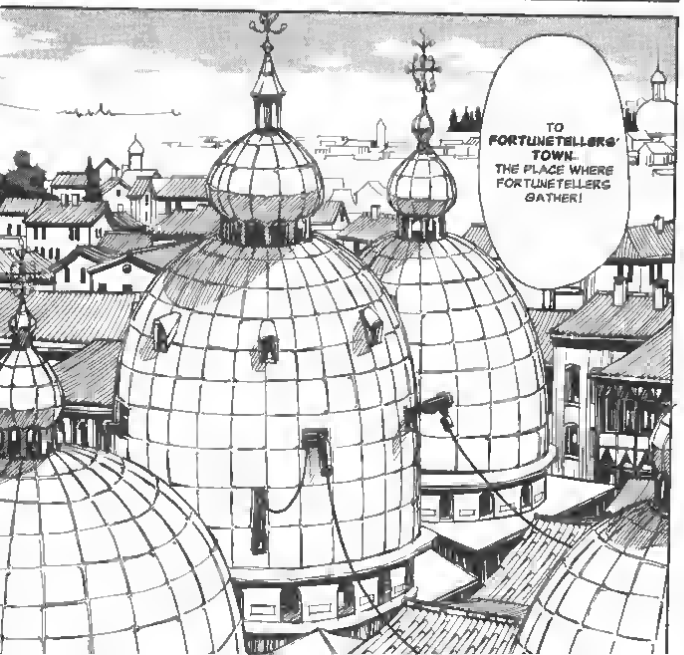
IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S HAPPENING TO ME TOO?
HELP M...!!
KER-BOOM

#14 異変

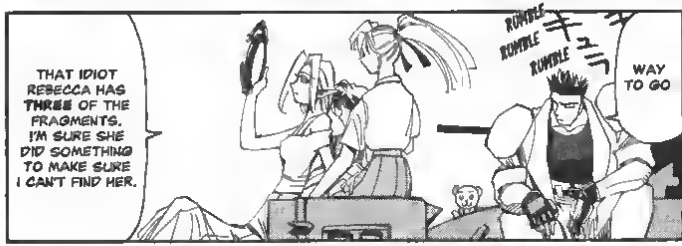
#14 An Extraordinary Event

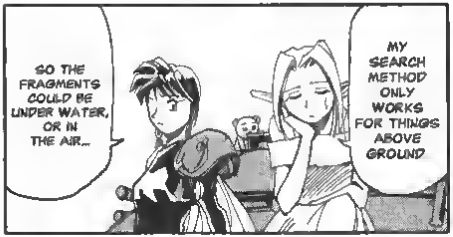


RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
I THINK WE SHOULD APPROACH OUR SEARCH FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE.
I GET IT. SO THAT'S WHY WE CAME HERE.

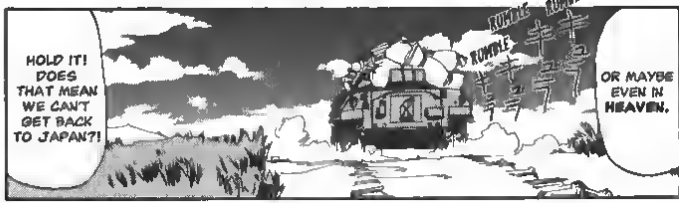

TO FORTUNETELLERS' TOWN. THE PLACE WHERE FORTUNETELLERS GATHER!

RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
IT'S HOPELESS. NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I RUN THE TEST, I DON'T GET A RESPONSE
HOW'S THE SEARCH FOR THE RESTORATION SPELL GOING?


THAT IDIOT REBECCA HAS THREE OF THE FRAGMENTS. I'M SURE SHE DID SOMETHING TO MAKE SURE I CAN'T FIND HER.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
WAY TO GO

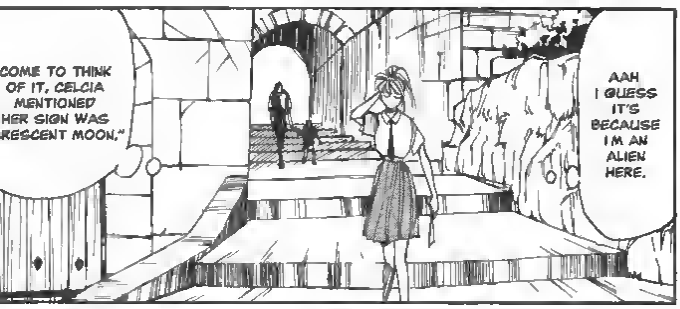

SO THE FRAGMENTS COULD BE UNDER WATER, OR IN THE AIR...
MY SEARCH METHOD ONLY WORKS FOR THINGS ABOVE GROUND

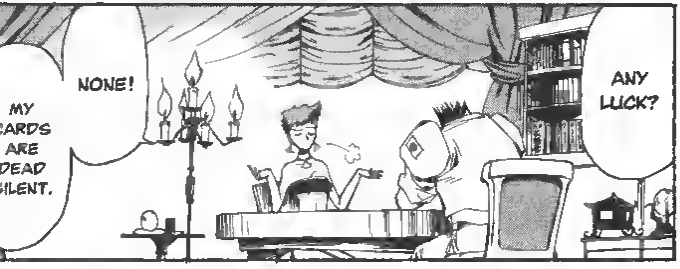
THAT'S GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER TWO FRAGMENTS?

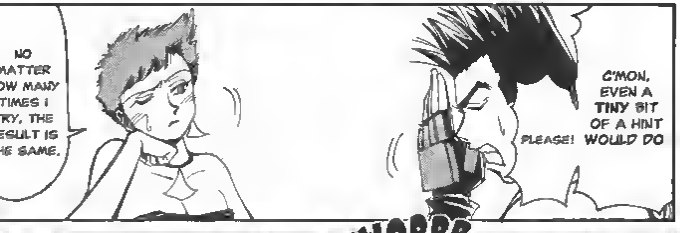

HOLD IT! DOES THAT MEAN WE CAN'T GET BACK TO JAPAN?!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
OR MAYBE EVEN IN HEAVEN.

WHAT YOU LOST SHALL SOON APPEAR.
THAT'S ALL.
THREE GOLD COINS
THEN WHAT?
THREE GOLD COINS!
HOW SOON IS "SOON"?!
THREE GOLD COINS.
WELL, WHERE WILL IT APPEAR?
WELL, HE'S NO GOOD.
I HAVE TO FIND A BETTER FORTUNE-TELLER
TOTTER
TOTTER...
.....

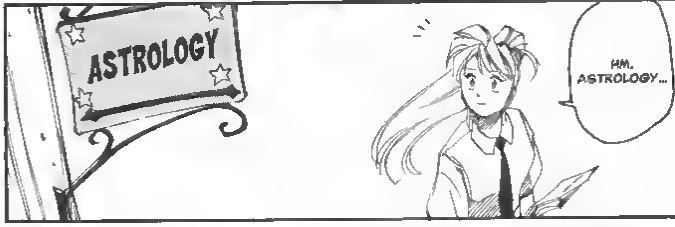
The Castle
FORTUNE TELLER
TAROT READING
CHATTER CHATTER
MURMUR MURMUR
MY FAVORITE RAMEN SHOP IS IN AKIHABARA.
IT'S LIKE ALL THOSE ELECTRONICS AND APPLIANCE STORES IN AKIHABARA.
WOW!
SO MANY SIGNS, AND THEY ALL LOOK THE SAME!
LET'S MEET AT THE INN WHEN THE TOWN GATES CLOSE LISTEN FOR THE BELL.
AND WE HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY
I'VE GOT THE MAP
RIGHT ON!
FWP!
ALRIGHT! LET'S GO SEE SOME FORTUNE-TELLERS!

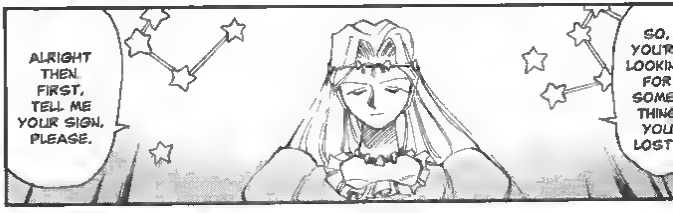

COME TO THINK OF IT, CELCIA MENTIONED HER SIGN WAS CRESCENT MOON."
AAH I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE I'M AN ALIEN HERE.

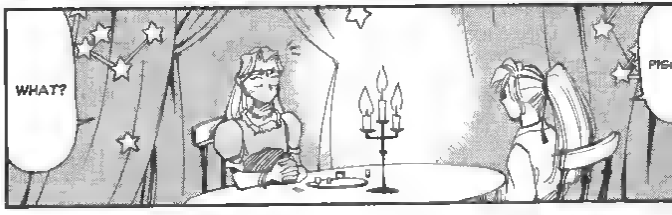

MY CARDS ARE DEAD SILENT.
NONE!
ANY LUCK?

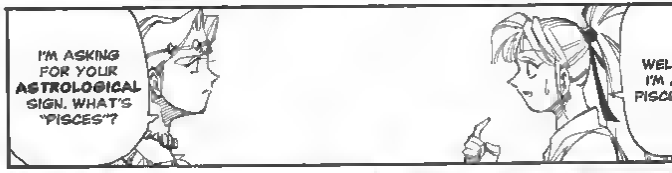

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TRY, THE RESULT IS THE SAME.
C'MON, EVEN A TINY BIT OF A HINT WOULD DO PLEASE!

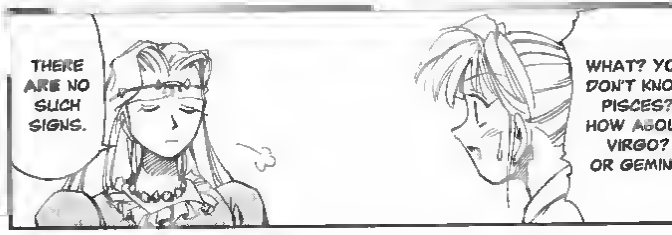
WHY DON'T YOU GO SEARCH THE RESTAURANT DISTRICT?
GOGOGOGOGO
WORRR
カレーライス
Curry Rice
PLEASE TRY HARDER!

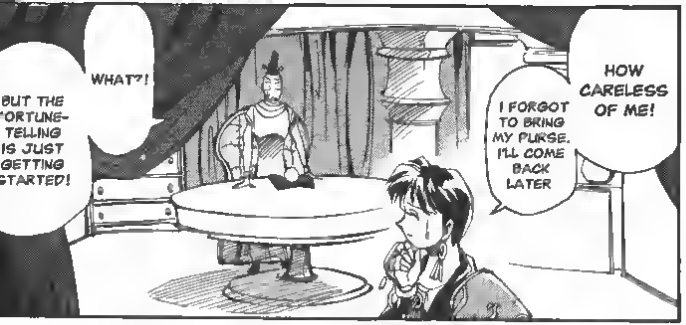

ASTROLOGY
HM. ASTROLOGY...


ALRIGHT THEN. FIRST, TELL ME YOUR SIGN, PLEASE.
SO, YOU'R LOOKIN FOR SOME THING YOU LOST

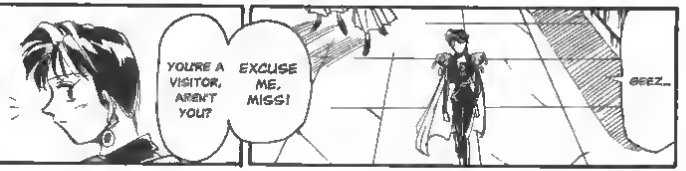

WHAT?
PISC

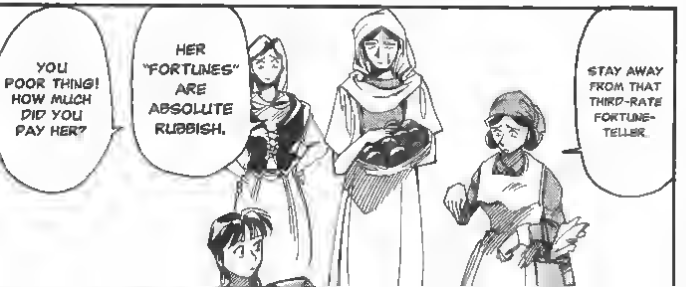

I'M ASKING FOR YOUR ASTROLOGICAL SIGN. WHAT'S "PISCES"?
WEL I'M PISC


THERE ARE NO SUCH SIGNS.
WHAT? YO DON'T KNO PISCES? HOW ABOU VIRGO? OR GEMIN

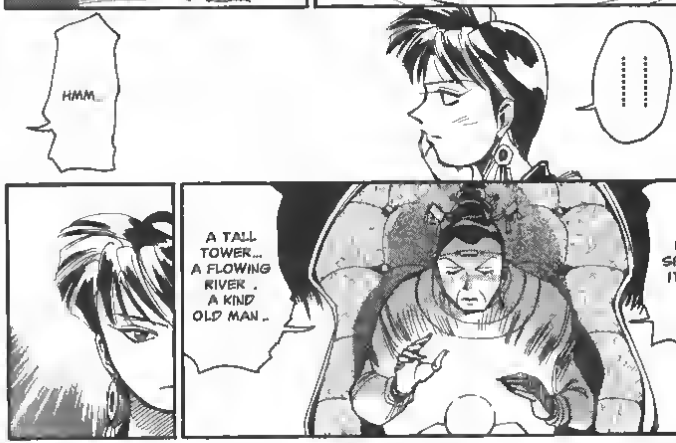

BUT THE FORTUNE-TELLING IS JUST GETTING STARTED!
WHAT?!
I FORGOT TO BRING MY PURSE. I'LL COME BACK LATER
HOW CARELESS OF ME!

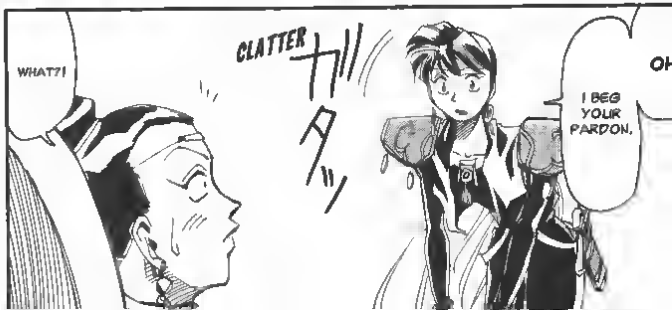
I'LL BE WAITING
WELL, GET YOUR PURSE AND HURRY ON BACK.
SORRY ABOUT THAT


YOU'RE A VISITOR, AREN'T YOU?
EXCUSE ME, MISS!
GEEZ...


YOU POOR THING! HOW MUCH DID YOU PAY HER?
HER "FORTUNES" ARE ABSOLUTE RUBBISH.
STAY AWAY FROM THAT THIRD-RATE FORTUNE-TELLER.

LOST ITEM...
LOST ITEM,


HMM...
.....
A TALL TOWER... A FLOWING RIVER... A KIND OLD MAN...


WHAT?!
CLATTER
I BEG YOUR PARDON.

MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
PLEASE SUBMIT ONE STRAND OF HAIR.
THE MEMBERSHIP FEE IS ONE SILVER COIN.

OH, YOU DON'T KNOW?
A "HAIR READING" YOU NEED A MEMBERSHIP FOR?
MURMUR
WHAT'S GOING ON?

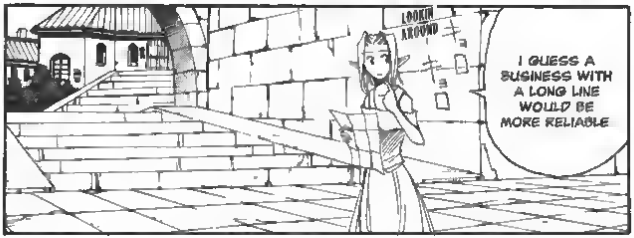
MURMUR
MURMUR
"THE MOLD CLINIC" ISN'T FORTUNE-TELLING, IT'S A HEALTH PROGRAM IT'S BEEN GETTING VERY POPULAR LATELY.

...
ひょこっ
FWSH

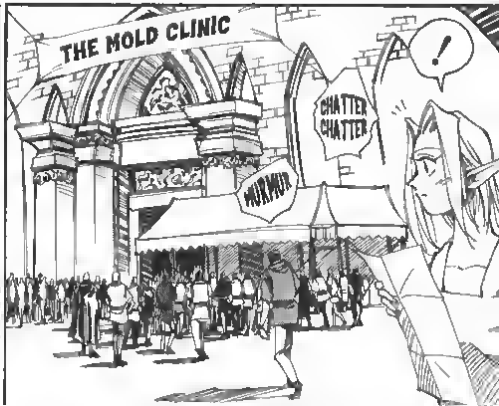
THERE'S AN ORIENTATION GOING ON IN THE HALL BACK THERE
ONCE YOU BECOME A MEMBER YOU'RE GUARANTEED TO HAVE PERFECT HEALTH OF BOTH MIND AND BODY!
"MOLD?" IT COULDN'T BE THAT MOLD...

IT'S ALL RIGHT. ACTING IS MY JOB, TOO.

THUP
すたすた
THUP
WONDER.
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY THAT?
HUH?


LOOKIN AROUND
I GUESS A BUSINESS WITH A LONG LINE WOULD BE MORE RELIABLE

"MOLD CLINIC?"...


THE MOLD CLINIC
CHATTER CHATTER
!
MURMUR

!!!
AAAH YOU'RE KIDDIN'!
MY AMPUTATED LEG STARTED GROWING BACK!
OOOH—
I FELL OFF A CLIFF, BUT I DIDN'T GET HURT!
AAAH—
MY BLINDNESS WAS CURED!
OOOH—
ON THE DAY I BECAME A MEMEER, MY BROKEN ARM HEALED COMPLETELY!
OOOOOOOOOH
MOLD...
HAIR...
YES C'MON, LET'S GO SOMEPLACE ELSE
IS THERE A PROBLEM?
YOU DIDN'T JOIN, DID YOU?
AIR!
HI, CELCIA!
GOOD.
PHEW
NOPE, JUST LOOKING
たたたた

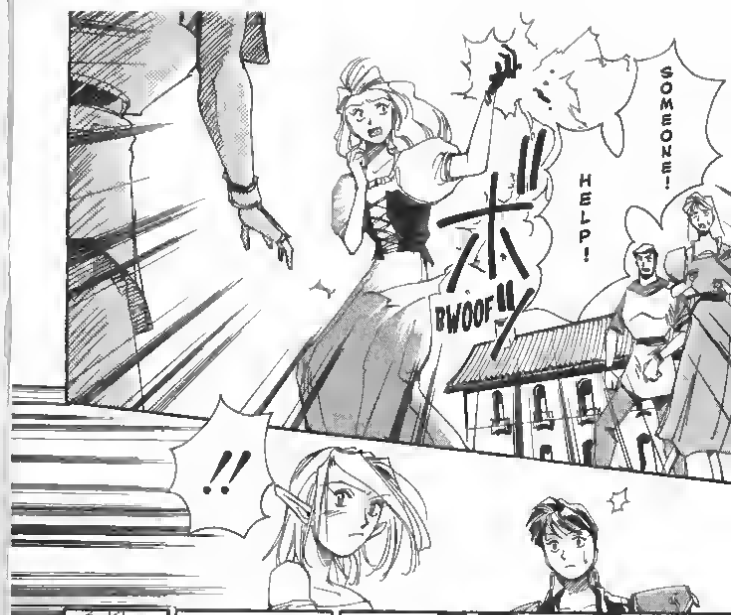
IF THIS IS WHAT I THINK IT IS... IT'S HORRIBLE!
OH NO...
CLATTER
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE IMPRESSED WITH "MIRACLES"! IF THEY BOTCH THIS UP...
AIEE!
ALL THE MEMBERS COULD DIE!

DO YOU BELIEVE WHAT YOU HEARD AT THAT ORIENTATION?
BUT AS FAR AS I SAW, THEY WEREN'T ACTING.
A LEG GROWING BACK, YOUTH BEING RESTORED. THEY ALL SEEMED LIKE LIES
THAT BIT ABOUT FIFTY MILLION PEOPLE JOINING WITHIN THE FIRST MONTH WAS JUST A PUT-ON, RIGHT?
PROBABLY...
OR THEIR ACTING IS SO GOOD THAT THEY CAN EVEN FOOL ME
CELCIA? WHAT IS IT?
MAYBE THE PRESENTERS THEMSELVES WERE DECEIVED BY SOMEONE ELSE

WAAUGH!!
BA-KOOM!

FSHOOO
AAAH...

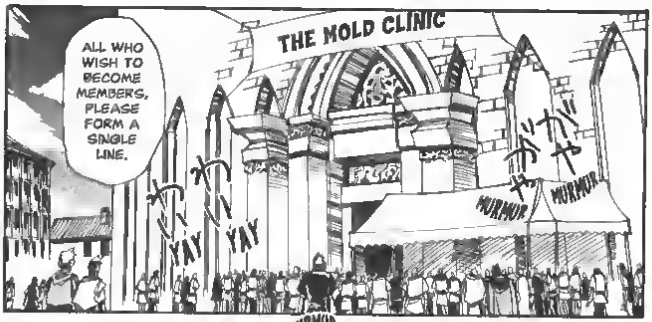
NOW, I'M SURE OF IT.
間違いない……
WHAT COULD BE CAUSING THIS?!
IT'S HORRIBLE.
ANOTHER SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION

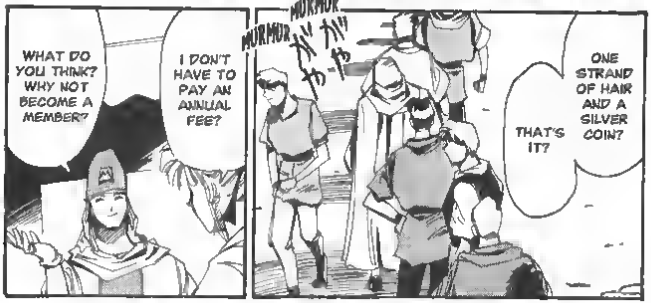

SOMEONE!
HELP!
BWOOF!!
!!

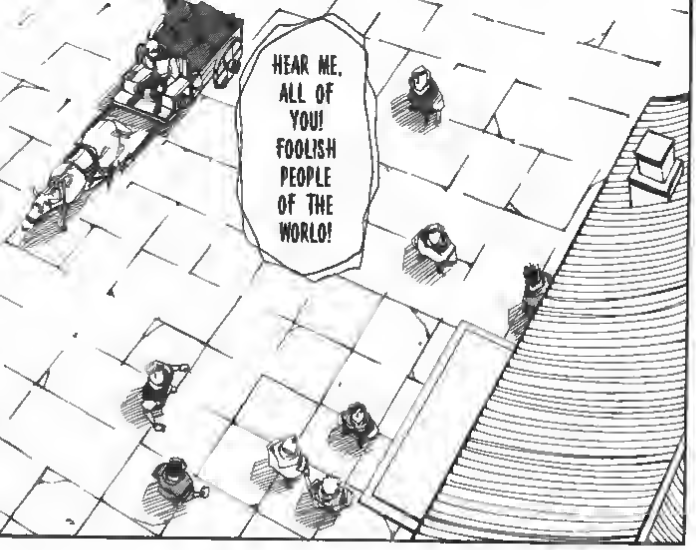
……
SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION?!
ARGH!
VGORR

HMM...
CELCIA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
DASH
WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!
WE CAN'T LET THEM HAVE ANY HAIR!
FOUR HUNDRED YEARS AGO... A WOMAN WAS WORKING ON A CERTAIN KIND OF RESEARCH
.....
THEN SHE'D MANIPULATE THE MOLD. BURNING PEOPLE OR TURNING THEM TO STONE
SHE'D TAKE HAIR OR A FINGERNAIL, AND ANALYZE THAT PERSON'S MOLF.

SOMEONE MUST HAVE STARTED USING THAT DEMON MAGIC AGAIN


THE MOLD CLINIC
ALL WHO WISH TO BECOME MEMBERS, PLEASE FORM A SINGLE LINE.
YAY
YAY
MURMUR
MURMUR


WHAT DO YOU THINK? WHY NOT BECOME A MEMBER?
I DON'T HAVE TO PAY AN ANNUAL FEE?
MURMUR
MURMUR
THAT'S IT?
ONE STRAND OF HAIR AND A SILVER COIN?


HEAR ME, ALL OF YOU! FOOLISH PEOPLE OF THE WORLD!

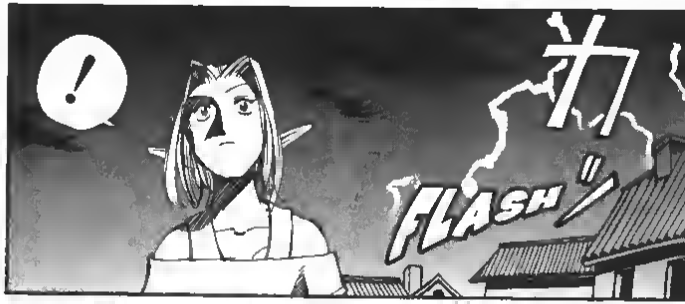
?
?!

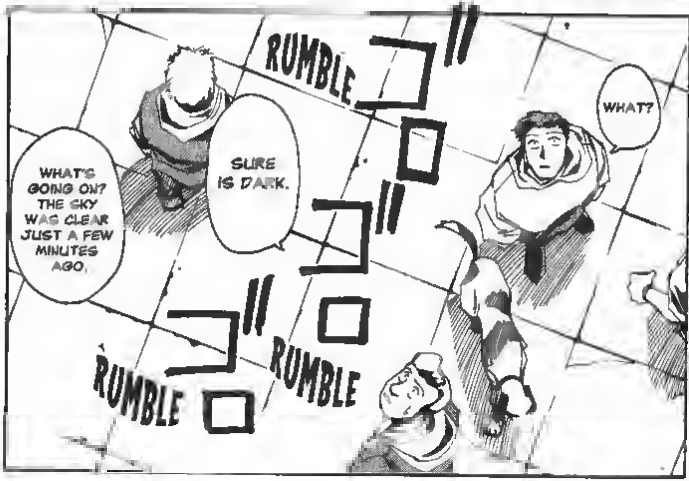
THAT'S...

WHAT?

?

MOLD IS...
WELL,
SHE ANALYZED THEIR MOLD? I DON'T FOLLOW YOU.
UM...


!
FLASH


RUMBLE
WHAT'S GOING ON? THE SKY WAS CLEAR JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO.
SURE IS DARK.
WHAT?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

.....

HUH?

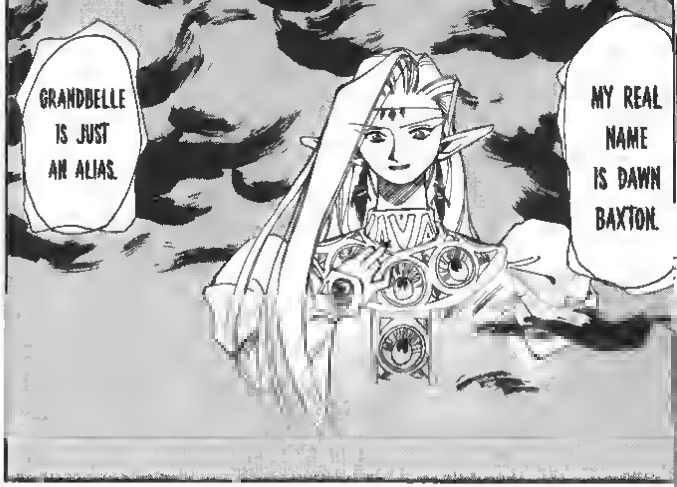
SOME-
THING
ISN'T
RIGHT.
MADAME
GRAND-
BELLE!
AN
ILLU-
SION?

FLASH
THAT'S
E
WOMAN
IN THE
PORTRAIT!

MADAME CHAIRMAN?!
W...WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THOSE FIFTY MILLION ARE NOW MY HOSTAGES!

I REALIZED IT TOO LATE.

WHAT?!
FIRST I SHALL CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF A NEW NATION WITH A SPECIAL DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS.


GRANDBELLE IS JUST AN ALIAS.
MY REAL NAME IS DAWN BAXTON.

MADAME GRAND-BELLE?!
WHAT?

THAT MEANS...
AND I HOLD IN MY HAND THE MOLDS OF MORE THAN FIFTY MILLION PEOPLE!
MOLD IS THAT WHICH CREATES LIFE GIVES IT SHAPE...

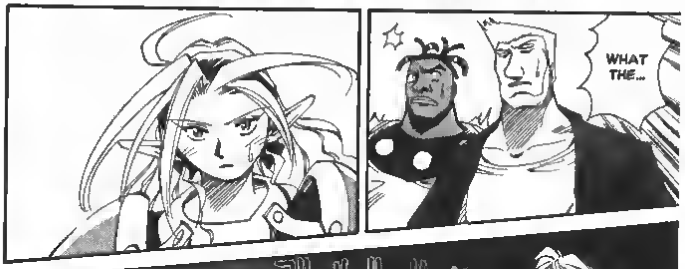
BA-KOOOM!
BWOOM!
BAM!

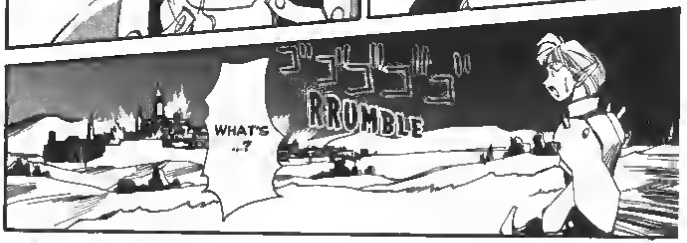
IT WAS WELL WORTH EXPLODING EIGHT MILLION HOSTAGES AT ONCE!
HOW BEAUTIFUL...

I WON'T LET HER GET AWAY WITH THIS!
I CAN'T...

AND NOW...
I HAVE THE POWER OF A GOD!

EEEEE!
GORRR
WAAAUGH!!

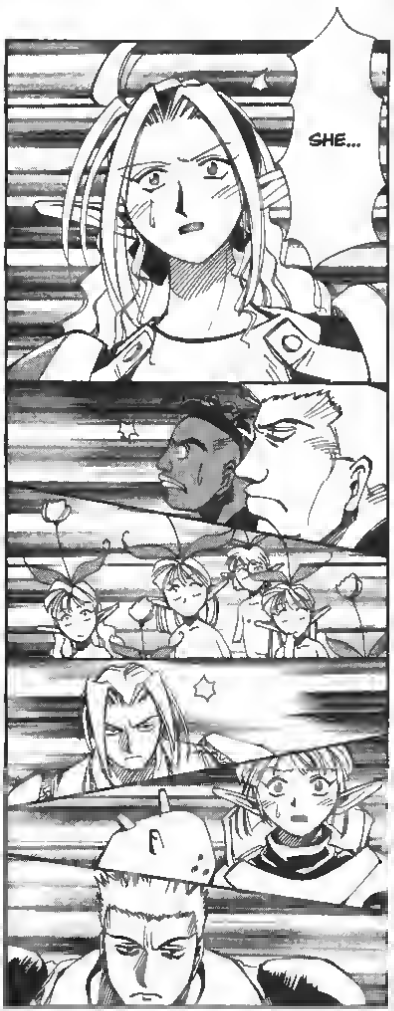

WHAT THE...


WHAT'S ..?
RRUMBLE

IT CAN'T BE!
WHAT THE HELL IS BLOWING UP?!

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CONQUERED THE WORLD!

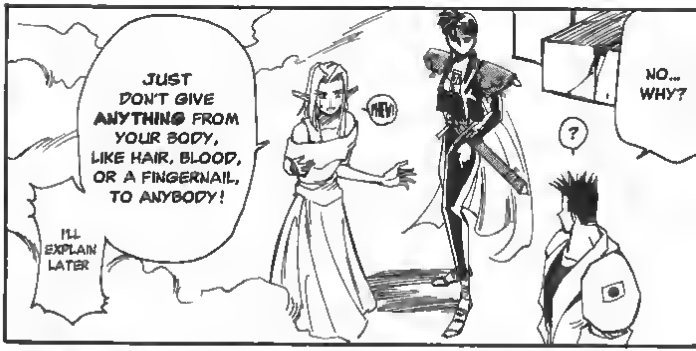
CONQUERED THE WORLD?!


SHE...

WHERE THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU COME OFF?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT SHE JUST SAID...
!
OUCH!
WHAT WAS UP WITH THAT BIG-ASS ELF?
HAIR?!
DID YOU GIVE A STRAND OF HAIR TO ANYONE?!
JUNPEI!
HEH HEH HEH
sparkle
キラリ
IT'D BE QUITE A CHALLENGE TO STRIP SUCH A HUGE ELF.

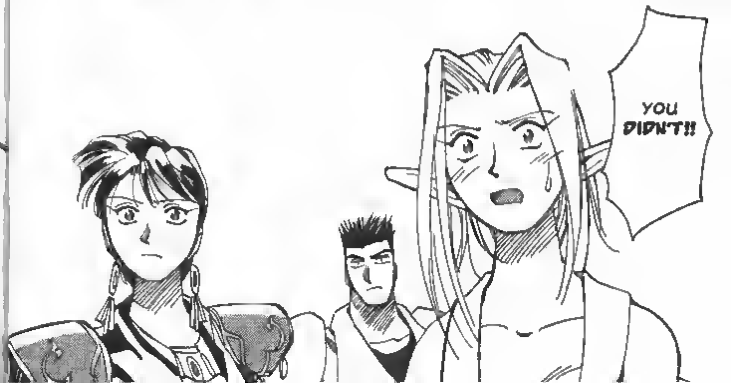
HAH HAH HAH!
HEH HEH...
.....
SHE'S GONE...

I...I GAVE THEM SOME OF MY HAIR.


JUST DON'T GIVE ANYTHING FROM YOUR BODY, LIKE HAIR, BLOOD, OR A FINGERNAIL, TO ANYBODY!
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER
HEY!
?
NO... WHY?

RITSUKO!

CELCIA... WHAT SHOULD I DO?


YOU DIDN'T!!

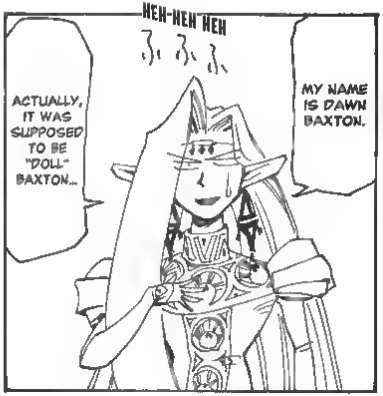
THOSE WHO HUNT ELVES

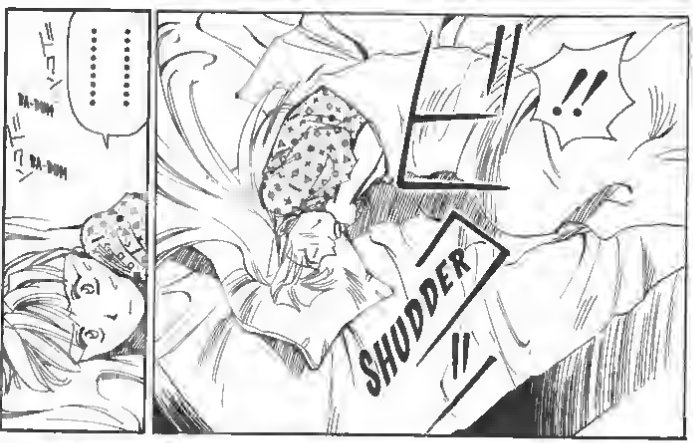
4

CREATOR YU YAGAMI

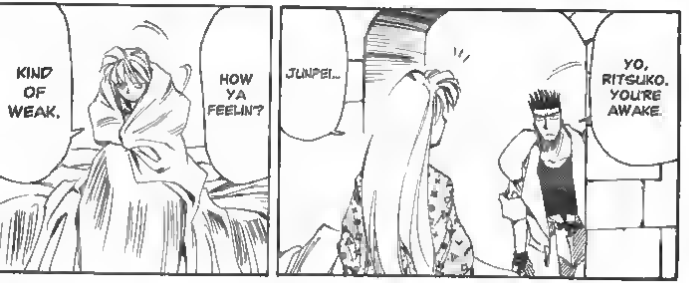
making of #14

I thought I wrote "Doll," so I was surprised to see "Dawn" in the book. I don't know what caused the mistake. We decided to keep "Dawn" because it sounded better.




.....
BA-DUM
BA-DUM
!!
SHUDDER

HUH...


KIND OF WEAK.
HOW YA FEELIN?
JUNPEI...
YO, RITSUKO. YOU'RE AWAKE.

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
HOW...

WHERE ARE YOU?!
AIRI!
JUNPEI!

!
JUN...

VWORR
YAAAAUGH!

.....
THAT'S WHAT AIRI SAYS, ANYWAY.

THIS SHOULD ALL BE OVER IN A FEW DAYS
ALL THE KNIGHTS IN THE WORLD ARE PROBABLY DOING EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO RESCUE THE HOSTAGES.
SERIOUSLY, NOW.

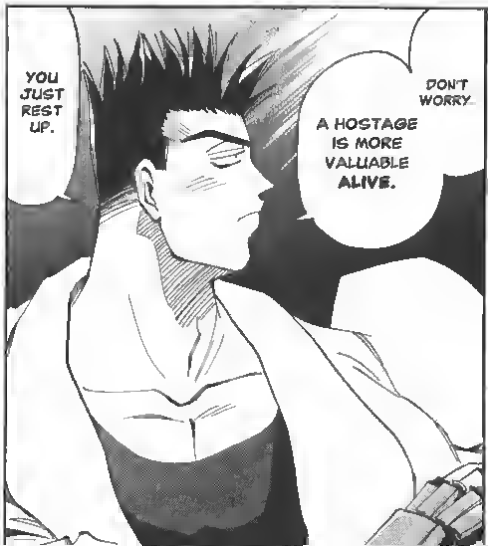
OH, REALLY.
THAT'S WHAT CELCIA SAYS, ANYWAY.

TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE SITUATION.
SHE AND AIRI WENT OUT
WHERE IS CELCIA NOW?

I'M TERRIFIED...
SOONER OR LATER, MY BODY COULD BURST INTO FLAMES.

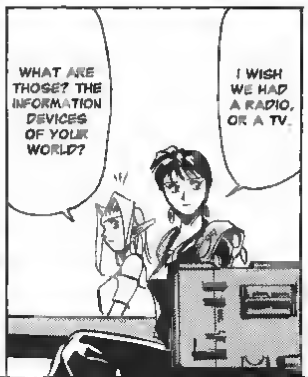
I WAS ALREADY GETTING SICK!
HMPH
SO YOU'RE GONNA LET YOURSELF GET SICK OVER IT? DON'T BE SUCH A WIMP!

JUNPEI...

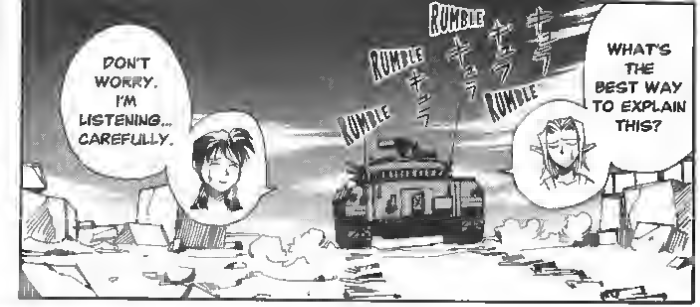

YOU JUST REST UP.
DON'T WORRY.
A HOSTAGE IS MORE VALUABLE ALIVE.

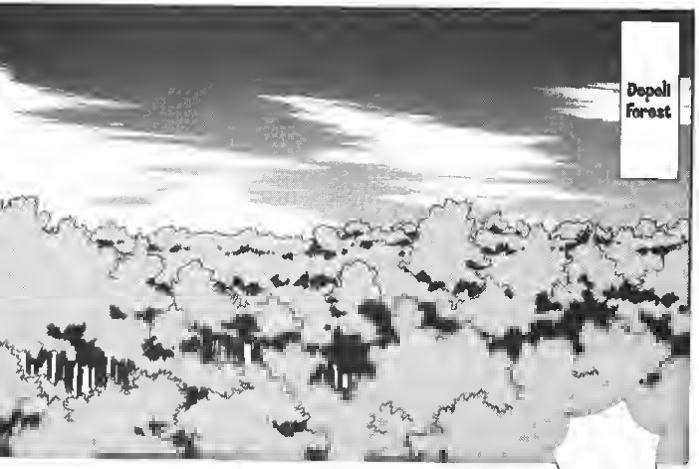
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO BUILD A "TELEPHONE"?
YEAH, ALONG WITH TELE-PHONES, FAX MACHINES, THE INTERNET... STUFF LIKE THAT.


WHAT ARE THOSE? THE INFORMATION DEVICES OF YOUR WORLD?
I WISH WE HAD A RADIO, OR A TV.

I WONDER IF IT'S LIKE THIS EVERY-WHERE...
RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
IT'S HORRIBLE!


DON'T WORRY. I'M LISTENING... CAREFULLY.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO EXPLAIN THIS?


Depell Forest

THE NORTHERN SEVENTH KNIGHTS DIVISION IS IN POSITION
THE DRAGON CAVALRY IS READY TO DEPLOY

SURE
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE YOU TO TEACH ME. FIRST,

WHAT IS THIS "MOLD"?

?
HMM
む
AAH THE MOLD

BOZOON KINGDOM'S SECOND KNIGHTS DIVISION IS READY FOR COMBAT.
THE THIRD CAVALRY HAS ARRIVED.
NEEEIGH
CLOMP
KASHING
MAKE SURE ALL WEAPONS ARE FULLY CHARGED WITH MAGIC.
IMPRESSIVE!
KNIGHTS FROM ALL THE NEIGHBORING KINGDOMS ARE HERE.
AND THEY'RE TAKING POSITION IN SIX OTHER LOCATIONS AS WELL.

Sorcerer Division, Kingdom of Systair

Combined Cavalry Division, Kingdom of Vergess

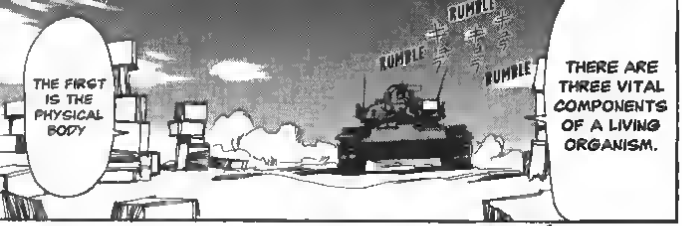
I DOUBT WE'LL ACTUALLY FIND DAWN THERE.
THE ONLY WORD WE HAVE TO GO ON THAT THIS IS THE ENEMY'S HEAD-QUARTERS IS THAT OF THE ENEMY ITSELF!

PLEASE, WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER
ANYTHING FROM THE RECON TEAM?

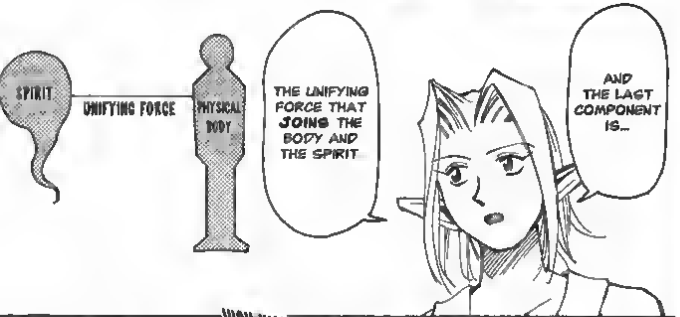
YES, THIS IS A HISTORICAL EVENT.
IT'S UNFORTUNATE THESE TREES ARE KEEPING US FROM SEEING THE ALLIED FORCES OF THE FIVE KINGDOMS.

Infantry Division, Kingdom of Nadall

Dragon Cavalry Division, Gorlin Empire

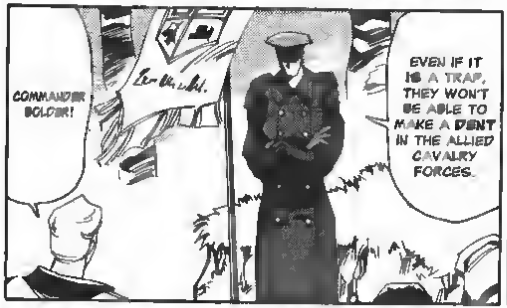

THE FIRST IS THE PHYSICAL BODY
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
THERE ARE THREE VITAL COMPONENTS OF A LIVING ORGANISM.

THAT'S RIGHT.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
AND NEXT IS THE SPIRIT, RIGHT?


SPIRIT
UNIFYING FORCE
PHYSICAL BODY
THE UNIFYING FORCE THAT JOINS THE BODY AND THE SPIRIT
AND THE LAST COMPONENT IS...

HIGH KICK TO LEFT
左ハイキック
YEAH, HOW COULD I FORGET?
OR HAVE A SITUATION LIKE WHEN JUNPEI'S SPIRIT TOOK OVER RITSUKO'S BODY.
BY MANIPULATING THAT FORCE, YOU CAN SEPARATE THE SPIRIT FROM THE BODY.

BUT THIS COULD ALL BE JUST A SMOKE-SCREEN!
AT LEAST HER CRONIES WILL BE.
EVEN IF SHE ISN'T THERE,


COMMANDER BOLDER!
EVEN IF IT IS A TRAP, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE A DENT IN THE ALLIED CAVALRY FORCES.

!
DON'T WORRY.

THEY CAN JUST PLAY WITH THE LIVES OF OTHERS NEED A HARSH LESSON IN REALITY.
THOSE WHO ARE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO THINK...

LIKE MAKE PEOPLE EXPLODE?
YOU COULD DO FAR MORE THAN JUST SEPARATE A SPIRIT FROM ITS BODY.
IMAGINE WHAT YOU COULD DO BY MANIPULATING THAT.
THE MOLD IS A COMPLETE MAP OF THE BODY AND SPIRIT.
THAT'S RIGHT.

I GUESS THEY CAN'T PINPOINT THE ENEMY'S LOCATION.
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR A LONG TIME

WHAT?
ANIMALS CAN SPONTANEOUSLY COMBUST, TOO?
WELL...
SCREE
YOU, TOO, GIMOOL!
HA HA HA! SAME GOES FOR YOU!
YOU DON'T GO BURSTING INTO FLAMES!
JUST MAKE SURE

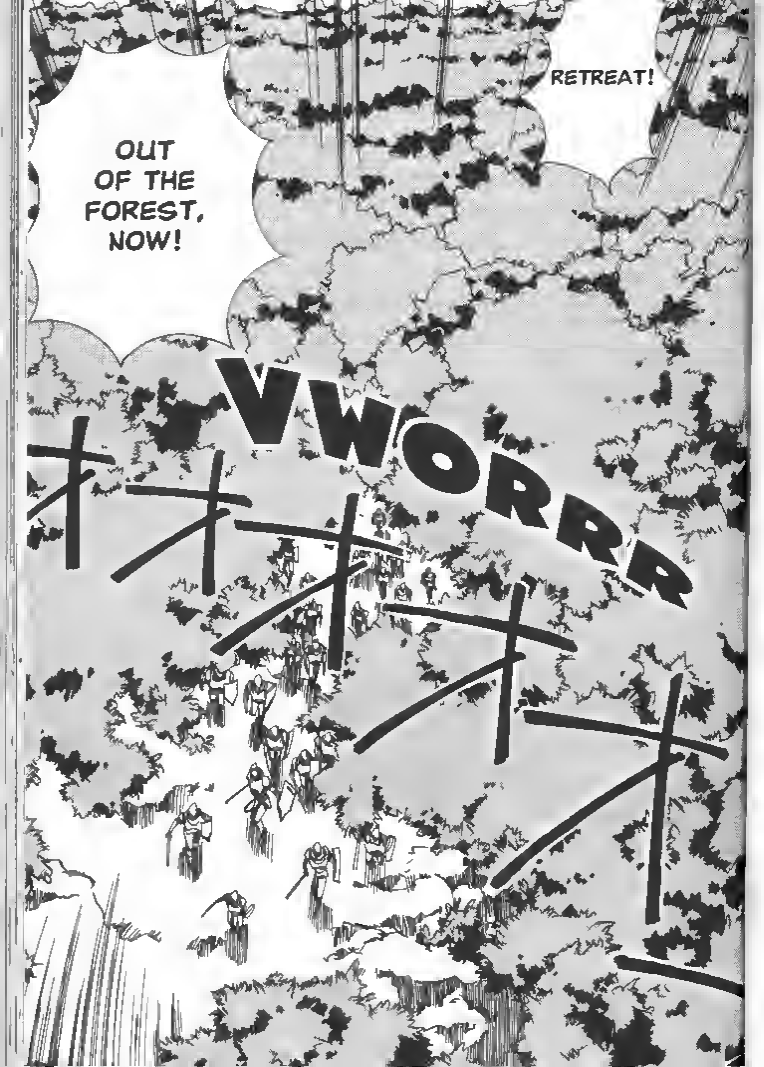
A BLUE-PRINT?
IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT IT'S ACTUALLY A BLUEPRINT FOR BOTH THE BODY AND THE SPIRIT.
HOWEVER, AFTER FURTHER RESEARCH OF THIS UNIFYING FORCE,

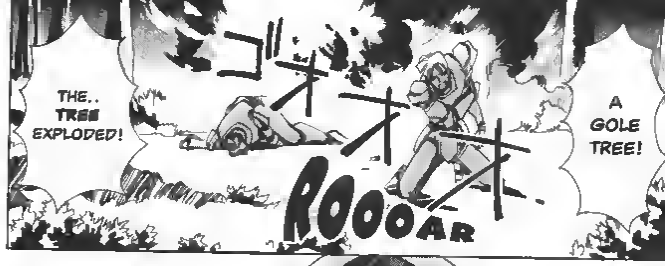
OR, MORE SIMPLY, THE MOLD.
AND BEGAN TO CALL IT THE "MOLD OF LIFE."
BASED ON THAT DISCOVERY, THEY STOPPED REFERRING TO IT AS THE "UNIFYING FORCE"

IT SOUNDS A LOT LIKE GENETICS.
I SEE...
NO TWO MOLDS ARE EXACTLY ALIKE. EACH IS UNIQUE.
EVEN IN THE CASE OF TWINS.
ITS STRUCTURE IS INCREDIBLY COMPLEX, BUT AT THE SAME TIME VERY ORDERLY.

A REPORT FROM THE RECONNAISSANCE TEAM!
たっ
THUP
THEN WHERE ARE THEY?
AN ILLUSORY TECHNIQUE...
CLATTER
THE ENEMIES WE CHASED WERE JUST ILLUSIONS!
SWHIP
THERE'S NO ONE IN DEPOLI PALACE!
WHAT JUST EXPLODED?!
WHAT?!
ドゴ!!
!!
KA-BOOOM

YES THE SAME GOES FOR ANIMALS AND FISH.
BASED ON WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME, OTHER LIFE FORMS HAVE A UNIQUE MOLD TOO, RIGHT?
!!
HOW ABOUT PLANTS?
WELL...
.....
I THINK IT'S THE SAME FOR PLANTS, TOO


RETREAT!
OUT OF THE FOREST, NOW!
VWORRR

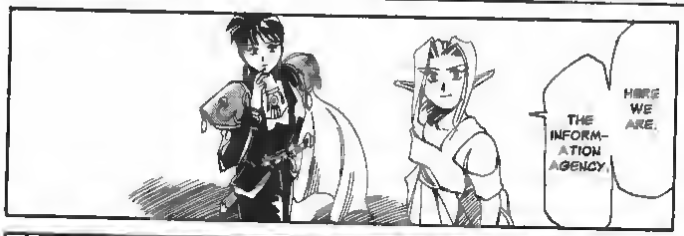

THE.. TREE EXPLODED!
A GOLE TREE!
ROOOAR

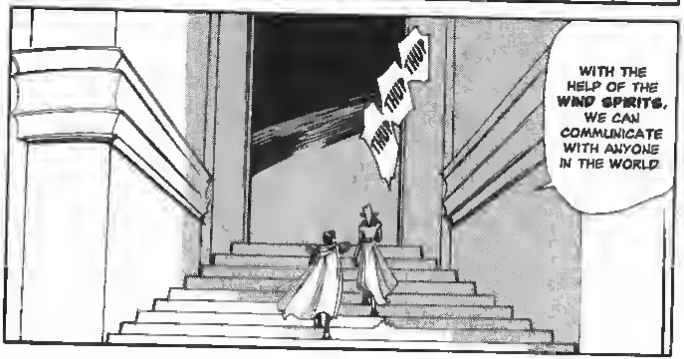
WHAT KIND OF MAGIC...
A TREE?

CAN EVEN MAKE A TREE EXPLODE?!
CLATTER

THIS IS THE BEST PLACE TO GET INFORMATION ON WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE
HUMM
THERE'S SO MANY PEOPLE!
RIGHT ABOUT NOW, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE THE ALLIED CAVALRY FORCES...
!!

RUMBLE

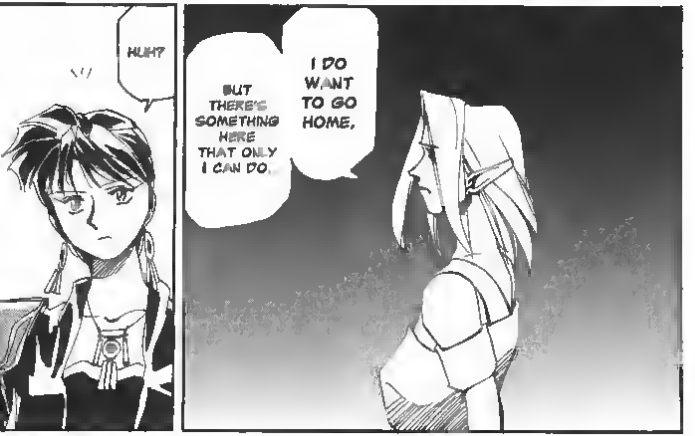

HERE WE ARE.
THE INFORM-ATION AGENCY.

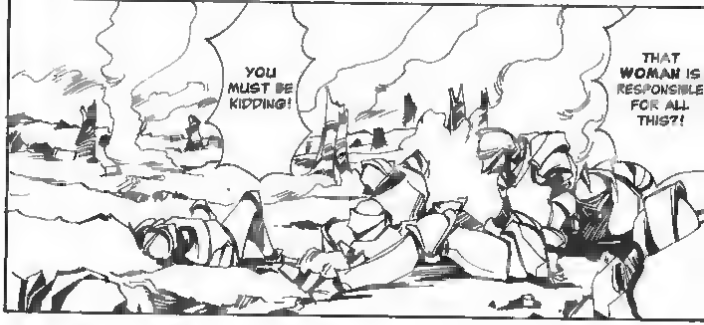

THUD
THUD
THUD
WITH THE HELP OF THE WIND SPIRITS, WE CAN COMMUNICATE WITH ANYONE IN THE WORLD.

NADELL'S CAVALRY DIVISION HAS SURRENDERED!
ABYSS DRAGON CAVALRY DIVISION, ANNIHILATED!!
NOUVELLE CAVALRY DIVISION, ANNIHILATED!
GARLIA EMPIRE AND SYSTAIR KINGDOM HAVE BOTH SURRENDERED!
IT... IT CAN'T BE!
ANOTHER EXPLOSION IN THE SOUTHWEST AREA OF THE FOREST.
IT'S HUGE!

YES...
CELCIA, YOU USED TO BE RULER OF THE CARMAGAN REGION, DIDN'T YOU?

I TURNED LEADERSHIP OVER TO THE CITIZENS' COUNCIL.
IT'S OKAY.
SHOULDN'T YOU GO BACK?


HUH?
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING HERE THAT ONLY I CAN DO.
I DO WANT TO GO HOME.


YOU MUST BE KIDDING!
THAT WOMAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS?!

SHE REALLY HAS CONQUERED THE WORLD!

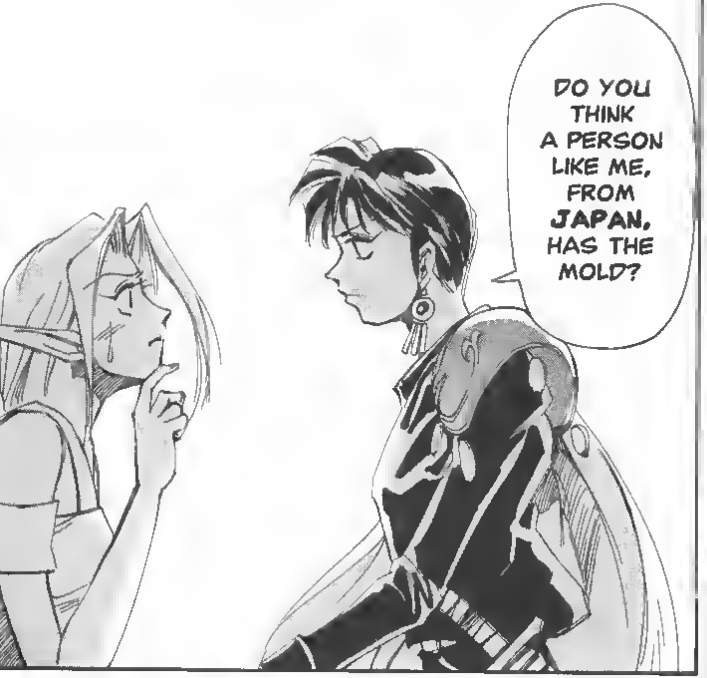
I WANT YOU TO GET OUT OF THIS WORLD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
WHICH IS EXACTLY WHY WE SHOULD HURRY!
I'M...
.....
FOR SUMMONING YOU TO A WORLD LIKE THIS.
I'M SO SORRY...

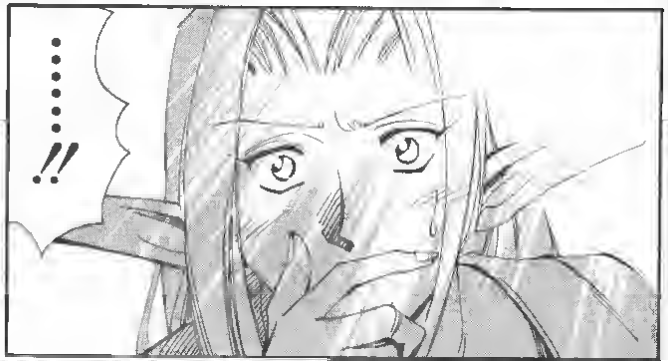
AIRI!
JUNPEI... RITSUKO...

OUR TOP PRIORITY IS TO SEND YOU THREE BACK TO JAPAN!

WHY NOW?! THIS IS AN EMER-GENCY!
HURRY. WE HAVE TO COLLECT THE SPELL FRAGMENTS.

CELCIA...



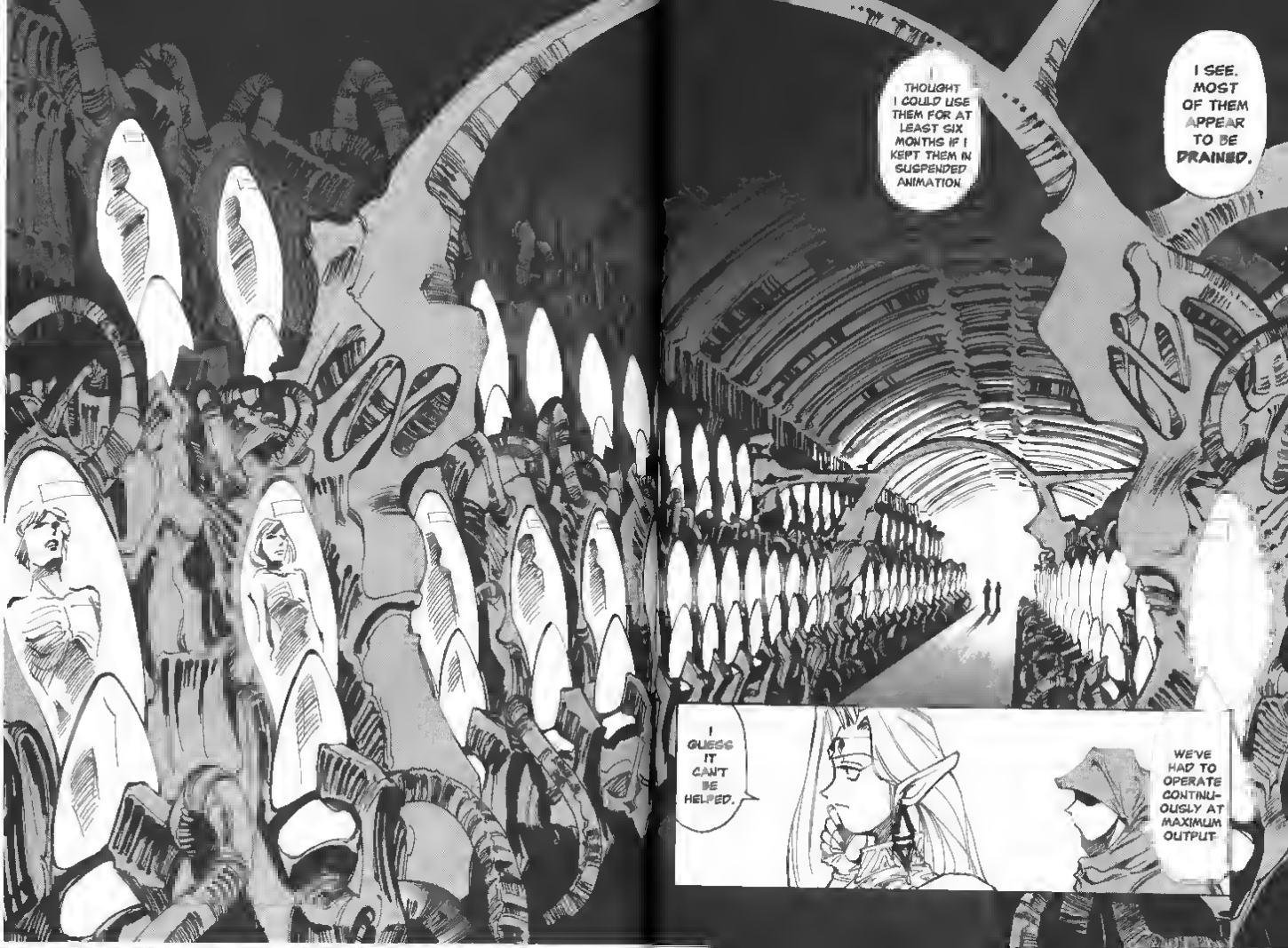


I WONDER WHAT HAPPENS TO LIFE FORMS FROM OTHER WORLDS.

FINALLY. THEY HAVE REALIZED MY DIVINE POWER!
HEH HEH HEH
MADAME DAWN!
VERGESS AND BOZOOM KINGDOMS HAVE BOTH SURRENDERED
ヴォォォン…
VWOMMM
ヴォォォン…
VWOMMM
ヴォォォン…
VWOMMM

DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT.
BUT IT MAY BE PRUDENT TO COLLECT MORE SACRIFICES BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.
WE STILL HAVE MORE THAN FIVE MILLION TONS.
MMMMM
MMMMM
FINE.
LET'S SEE HOW OUR SACRIFICES ARE DOING.
.....
HMPH.

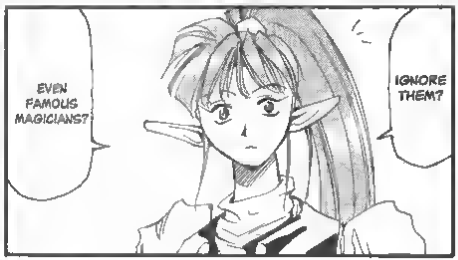
PREPARE YOURSELVES, YOU FOOLS..
BUT THE REAL SHOW IS YET TO COME!
SHWIP
SWSH
WELL?
MADAME DAWN, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.
BUT WE'D ACCUMULATED SO MUCH!
WHAT? WE'RE LOW ON MAGICAL POWER?!


I SEE. MOST OF THEM APPEAR TO BE DRAINED.
I THOUGHT I COULD USE THEM FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS IF I KEPT THEM IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION.
WE'VE HAD TO OPERATE CONTINUOUSLY AT MAXIMUM OUTPUT.
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

.....
TEESEN, THE MORPHING DEMON.

BUT IGNORE THE HUMANS.
GO DOWN TO THE SURFACE AND ASSIST WITH THE HUNT FOR SACRIFICES.

I'VE FOUND OUT THAT HUMANS DON'T LAST.
THEY'RE USE-LESS.


EVEN FAMOUS MAGICIANS?
IGNORE THEM?

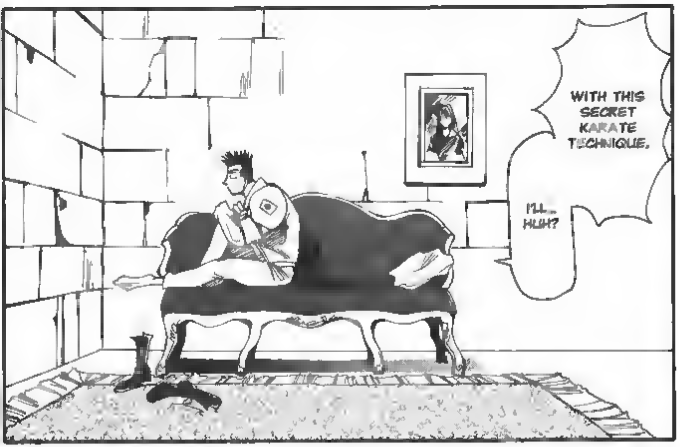
BARTZ KING OF FIGHTERS
I SHALL SEND MY BEST FIGHTERS TO ASSIST WITH THE GROUND TROOPS.
VERY WELL.

YEAH?
KILICA, THE PUPPETEER!
YES, MA'AM.

YOU WANT US TO HUNT ELVES!

WE NEED THOSE WHO POSSESS REAL MAGICAL POWER.
NOT JUST ONES WHO'VE MASTERED SPELL-CASTING

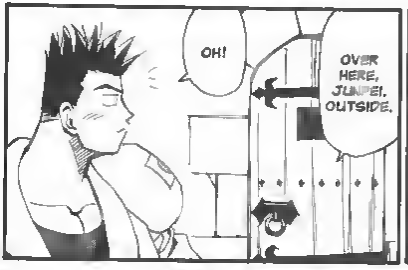
I SEE!
THERE IS A SPECIES WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF LATENT MAGICAL POWER THAN HUMANS ..

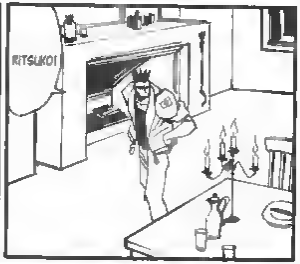

WITH THIS SECRET KARATE TECHNIQUE,
I'LL... HUH?

GUESS I WAS DREAMIN'.
SOMEONE TRIED TO GRAB MY CURRY RICE.
NOTHING
WHAT'S WRONG?

WHY DON'T YOU TRY DREAMING ABOUT HUNTING ELVES?
DAMN IT WAS A NICE, BIG DISH, TOO...

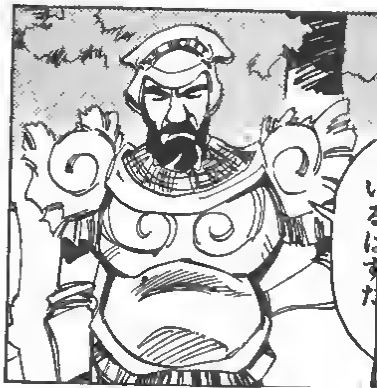
GET YOUR HANDS OFF, YOU IDIOT!
GRRRR





making of #15

This guy makes a very brief appearance. I don't really know what's up with his outfit, but one morning several months after I'd finished drawing him, I realized that I quite like it. The spiral shapes on his shoulders and his chest look sexy somehow



THOSE WHO HUNT ELVES

4

CREATOR YU YAGAMI

#16 力の証明

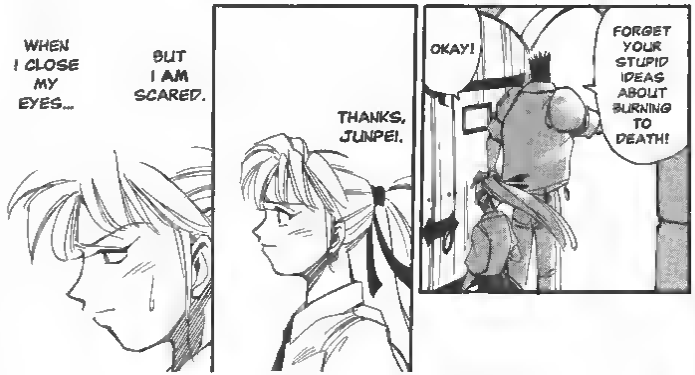
#16 Proof of Power

HOW COME?
AND THERE AREN'T ANY CONSTELLATIONS THAT WE'D KNOW HERE, ANYWAY.
NOT REALLY...
SO YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT, LIKE, LEO AND GEMINI AND STUFF?

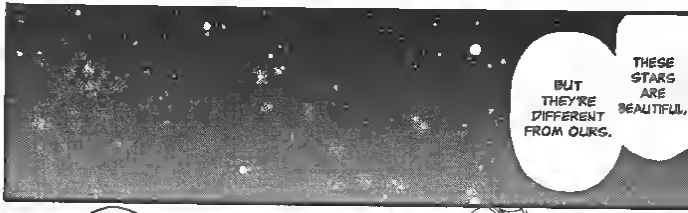
YOU CAN COUNT ON IT!
WE ARE GONNA MAKE IT BACK TO JAPAN! ALIVE!

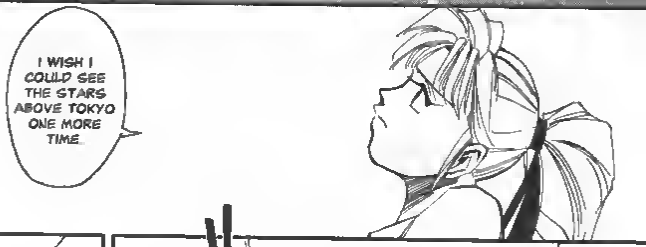
SORRY
S...

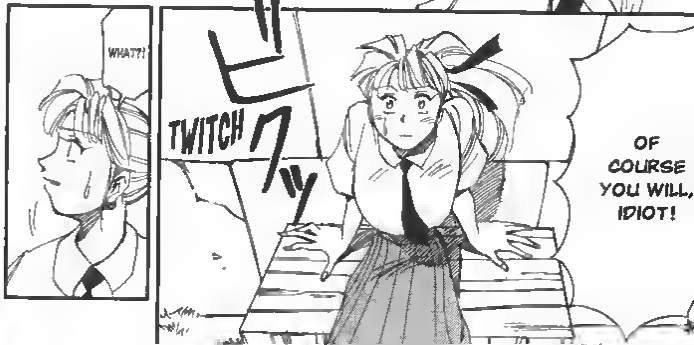
.....
YOU'RE RIGHT. WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?


WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES...
BUT I AM SCARED.
THANKS, JUNPEI.
OKAY!
FORGET YOUR STUPID IDEAS ABOUT BURNING TO DEATH!

THERE IS NO SUCH SIGN.
WELL, I'M A PISCES.
BUT I JUST COULDN'T MAKE HER UNDER-STAND.
THE OTHER DAY I WENT TO AN ASTROLOGER

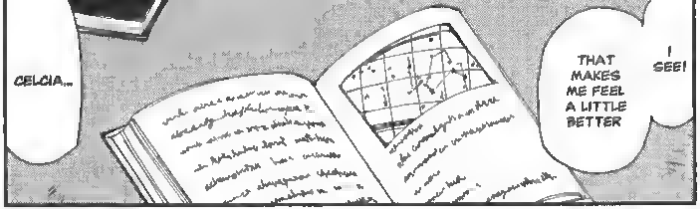

BUT THEY'RE DIFFERENT FROM OURS.
THESE STARS ARE BEAUTIFUL.

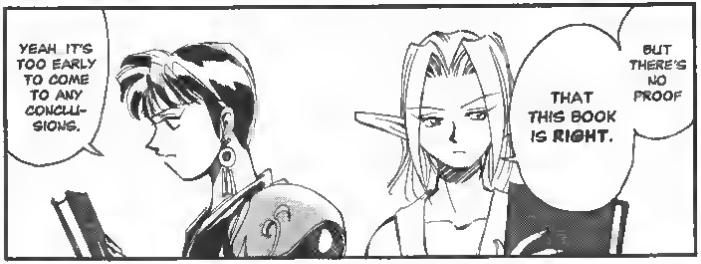

I WISH I COULD SEE THE STARS ABOVE TOKYO ONE MORE TIME.


WHAT?!
ビクッ
TWITCH
OF COURSE YOU WILL, IDIOT!

THE POWER OF THE STARS, AIKI!
HUH?
READ HERE WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS HOW INFLUENTIAL
THE STARS ARE
THE UNIVERSE.
UNIVERSE
THE MOLD
LIFE
AND THE MOLD IS CONTROLLED BY...
LIFE IS CONTROLLED BY THE MOLD.

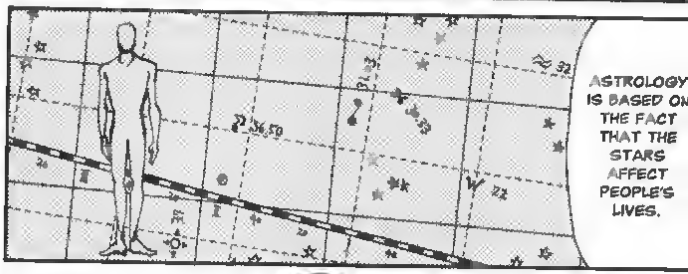
I SEE MYSELF BURNING.
IS THIS?
WHAT...
PSSH
PSSH
IT'S FRIED FISH.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
UNGRATEFUL LITTLE BABY! I MADE THIS JUST FOR YOU!
YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE OF DECENCY!
CRAKK
THUD


CELCIA...
THAT MAKES ME FEEL A LITTLE BETTER
I SEE!


YEAH IT'S TOO EARLY TO COME TO ANY CONCLUSIONS.
THAT THIS BOOK IS RIGHT.
BUT THERE'S NO PROOF

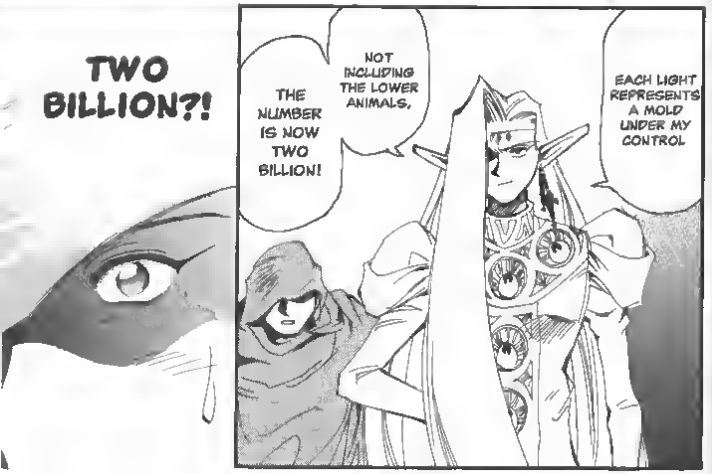
I WANT TO FIND SOME PROOF THAT RITSUKO IS SAFE.
LIFE MOLD

THERE ARE PLENTY OTHER EXAMPLES.
INCREASES IN THE BIRTH RATE DURING A NEW MOON...
HIGH TIDES AND LOW TIDES.
WOLFMEN ON THE NIGHT OF A FULL MOON.
THE HEAVENS AFFECT OUR LIVES IN SO MANY WAYS.

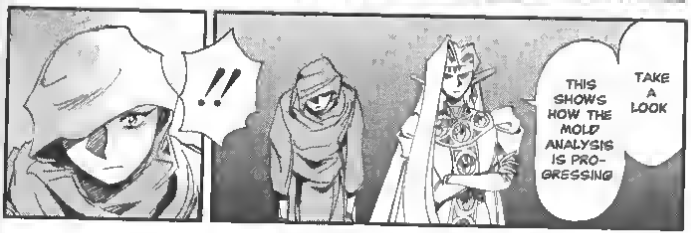

ASTROLOGY IS BASED ON THE FACT THAT THE STARS AFFECT PEOPLE'S LIVES.

YOU, AIRI, AND RITSUKO WERE BORN IN ANOTHER UNIVERSE, SO DAWN'S POWER CAN'T TOUCH YOU.
AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, THAT POWER CAN ONLY REACH LIVES BORN IN THIS UNIVERSE.
DAWN IS TRYING TO BECOME THE UNIVERSE.
THE MOLD IS CONTROLLED BY THE UNIVERSE.

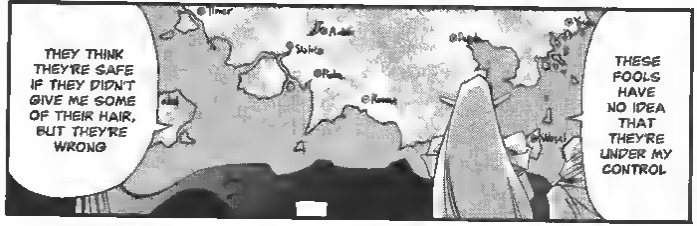
WHAT IS THIS?!

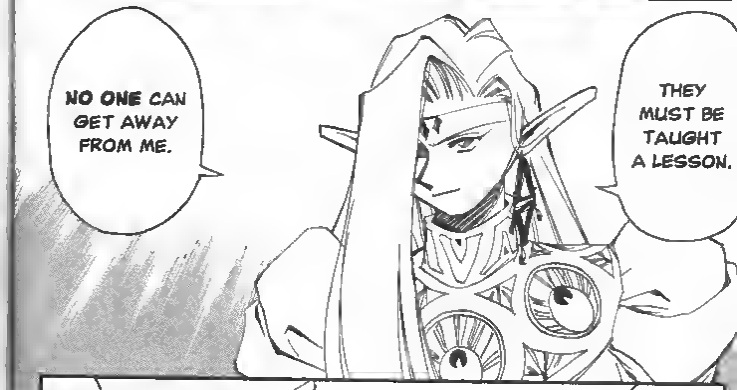

TWO BILLION?!
THE NUMBER IS NOW TWO BILLION!
NOT INCLUDING THE LOWER ANIMALS,
EACH LIGHT REPRESENTS A MOLD UNDER MY CONTROL

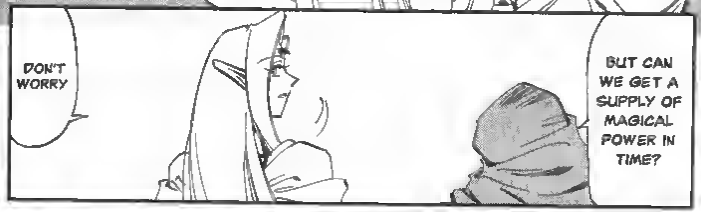
I HAVE TO SHOW THEM PROOF.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MA'AM?
WE HAVE TO MAKE THEM KNOW THAT OUR CONTROL REACHES EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD


!!
TAKE A LOOK
THIS SHOWS HOW THE MOLD ANALYSIS IS PROGRESSING

BWOOSH
GARGH!!
CRACK!
AARGH!
BWOMP!


THEY THINK THEY'RE SAFE IF THEY DIDN'T GIVE ME SOME OF THEIR HAIR, BUT THEY'RE WRONG
THESE FOOLS HAVE NO IDEA THAT THEY'RE UNDER MY CONTROL


NO ONE CAN GET AWAY FROM ME.
THEY MUST BE TAUGHT A LESSON.


DON'T WORRY
BUT CAN WE GET A SUPPLY OF MAGICAL POWER IN TIME?

THAT'S WHY WE HAVE THE GROUND TROOPS.

GEEZ, BARTZ YOU'RE ALWAYS OVERDOING IT!

YOU LEFT NOTHING FOR ME TO DO.

CRUNCH
!!

THUD
.....

WE'VE FILLED TWELVE PAGES SO FAR.
YUP!
IS SHE IN?

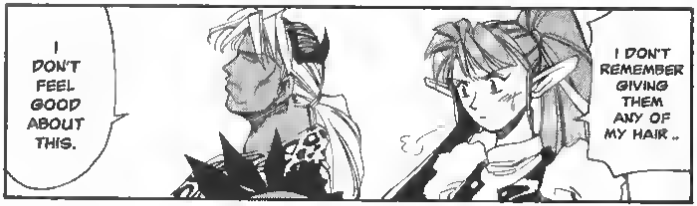
LET ME OUT OF HERE!
BAM
BAM
PLEASE!

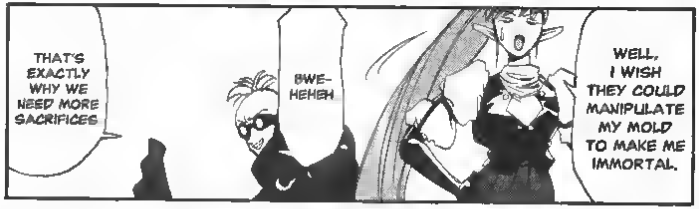
I SHALL OBTAIN THE INFORMATION FROM THE CASTLE'S STAR MAP
JUST A MOMENT
THUP
WHERE CAN WE FIND THE NEXT ELF?
THEO!

LET ME GO!
NO!

SHOVE
...?!
NOW BE A GOOD GIRL AND GET INTO THIS BOOK, OK?
READY!

SHLORP
AAAAAH!


I DON'T FEEL GOOD ABOUT THIS.
I DON'T REMEMBER GIVING THEM ANY OF MY HAIR..

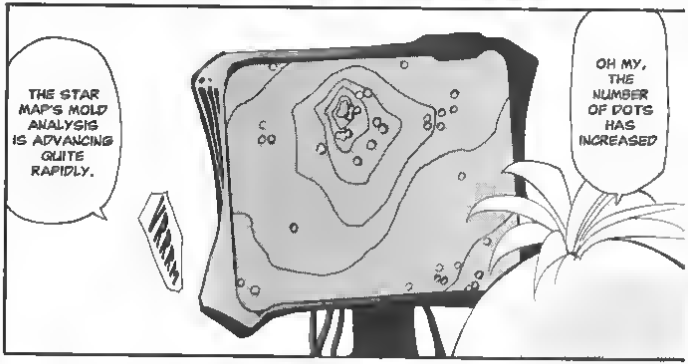

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE NEED MORE SACRIFICES
BWE-HEHEH
WELL, I WISH THEY COULD MANIPULATE MY MOLD TO MAKE ME IMMORTAL.

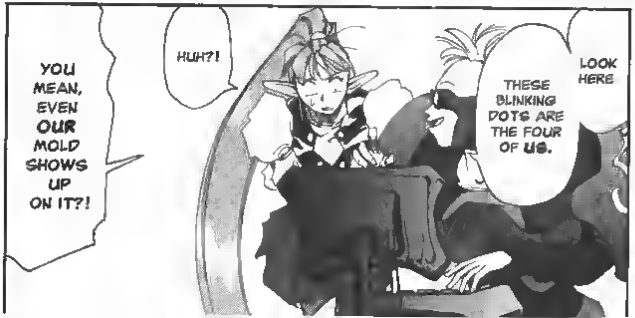
TAP TAP
MUST HURRY..
YES, YES.
HURRY UP AND LOCATE THE NEXT TARGET.
FINE! WE'LL JUST HUNT MORE ELVES!

HUH?
OVER THERE?

DID YOU CHECK THAT HILL OVER THERE?
.....

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
ELF... WHERE ARE YOU, ELF...
HM?
.....


THE STAR MAP'S MOLD ANALYSIS IS ADVANCING QUITE RAPIDLY.
OH MY, THE NUMBER OF DOTS HAS INCREASED


YOU MEAN, EVEN OUR MOLD SHOWS UP ON IT?!
HUH?!
THESE BLINKING DOTS ARE THE FOUR OF US.
LOOK HERE

YES NOW ANSWER ME!
YOU ASKIN' ME?
HM?

I GUESS WE LOST HER.
DAMN!
NOPE
SIZZLE

PNK
ポトッ
OH.
THWOP
ARE YOU REALLY SURE YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ANY? IF YOU'RE LYING, WE'LL MAKE YOU PAY.
MORON! KEEP THINKIN' LIKE THAT, AND YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A LOSER.
LET'S ASK THEM TO SEARCH AGAIN, USING THE STAR MAP.

MASTER GAU'S TEAM HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT AND THEY'RE KNOWN FOR THEIR FIGHTING ABILITIES.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO GO THERE.

.....

WHY'D THEY PUT US IN CHARGE OF THIS HILL?!
SCUFF
SCUFF
SCUFF
DAMN! SO MANY STAIRS!
HEY YOU! HAVE YOU SEEN ANY ELVES AROUND HERE?
IRRITATED

AND DON'T YOU...
KNOW WHO I AM?
DON'T YOU KNOW WHO WE WORK FOR?
BASTARD
!
CREAK
WHAT'S GOING ON, JUNPEI?
HM?!
I SEE... YOU'VE GOT A LADY FRIEND, HUH?
ARGH!
YOU BUTT-WIPE! YOU MADE ME DROP MY FISH!!
THWACK!
THUD
C'MON, WAKE UP!
Pssst
WHAT THE-?!
SHWP

IT'S USELESS TO RESIST, SEE?
SMIRK
SMIRK
KERSMASH
YOU GOT THAT, MORON?!
ARGH!
JUNPEI!
DON'T MOVE!!
THAT BASTARD'S GOT SOME GOOD MOVES!

!!
IT'S YOU! YOU GAVE US SOME OF YOUR HAIR, DIDN'T YOU?
GOOD. SHE'S A "CONTROLLED WOMAN."
SMIRK
I SAW HER IN THE FORTUNE-TELLER'S DISTRICT.
SHE SURE DID.
IT'S UP TO HER WHETHER YOU LIVE OR DIE.
MADAME DAWN HAS YOUR MOLD.
YOU REALIZE THE SITUATION YOU'RE IN, DON'T YA?
DAMN!
.....

YOU AIN'T IN NO POSITION TO TALK LIKE THAT!
BAAM
INTER-ESTING!
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE STILL READY TO GO
HM?

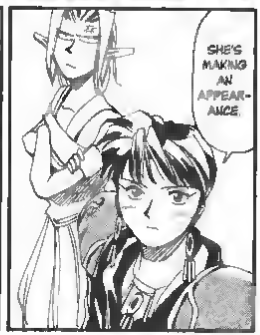
DAMN!
IF YOU RESIST, YOUR MOLD WILL BE MANIPULATED AND YOU'LL BE BLOWN TO PIECES!
NO WAY
I'LL...
IF YOU EVEN TRY...
RIGHT NOW..
EH? WHAT'D YOU SAY?
JUNPEI!!
I'LL SLAUGHTER EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!

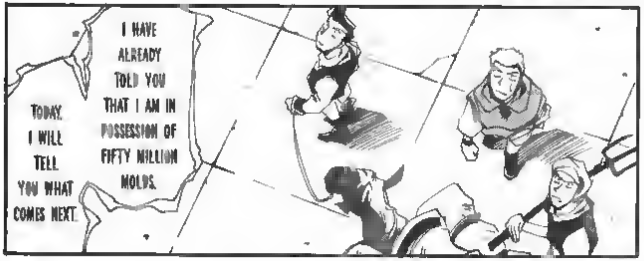
PLEASE! JUST STOP IT!
HOW ARE YOU.
MY DEAR FOOLISH PEOPLE?
MADAME DAWN!
BWOMP!
I'M GONNA ENJOY BEATIN' YOUR ASS TO A PULP!
STOP!
S...
THIS MUST BE HOW THE GODS FEEL!
IT SURE FEELS GREAT TO KICK THE CRAP OUT OF SOME-ONE!
THWMP
THUD
FWSH

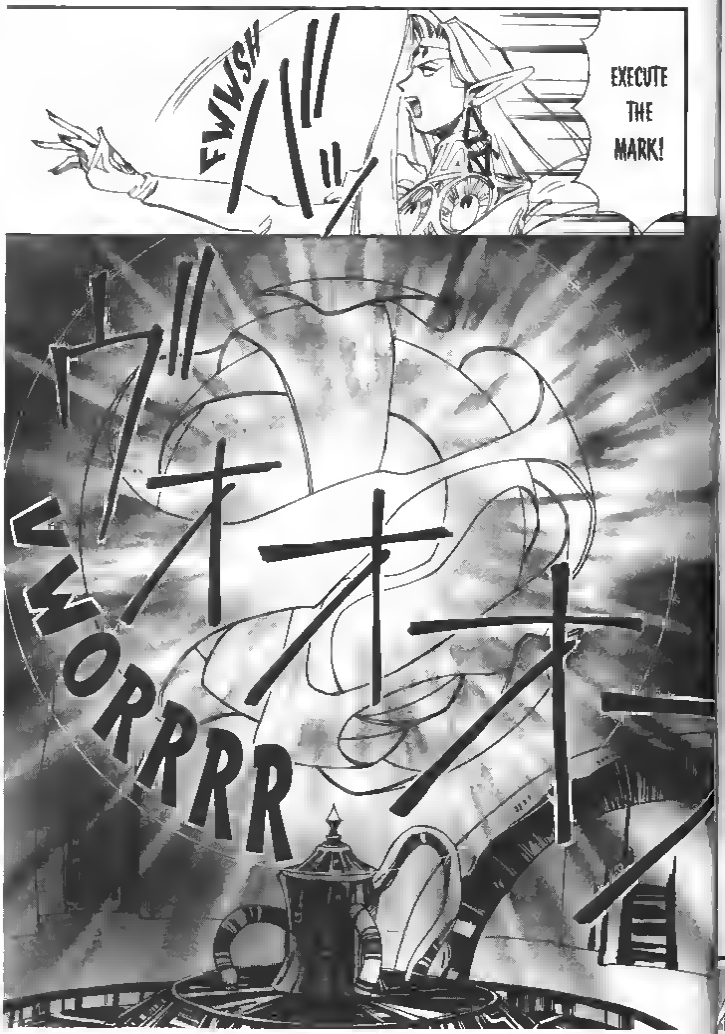
I SUCCEEDED IN GETTING CONTROL OF THE MOLD FOR ALL LIFE FORMS ON THIS PLANET.
JUST A WHILE AGO...
THAT'S A LIE! I DIDN'T GIVE ANYONE ANY OF MY HAIR!
ME, NEITHER!
ME, TOO?
THE... THE WHOLE WORLD?!
WE'VE USED THOSE FIFTY MILLION MOLDS TO ANALYZE THE UNIVERSE!!
THROUGH THE SAME METHOD USED TO ANALYZE THE MOLD FROM A STRAND OF HAIR...
WHAT THE-?!
I NO LONGER REQUIRE YOUR HAIR.

VWORRR
オオオ
HUHUH
HUHUH

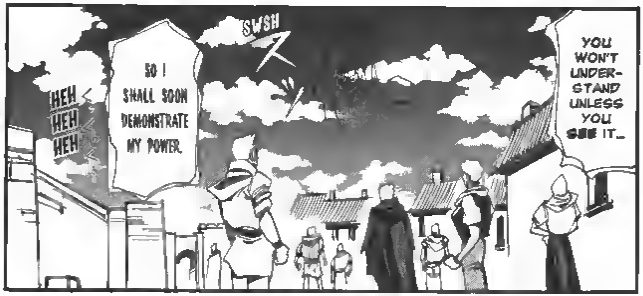
.....


SHE'S MAKING AN APPEARANCE.


TODAY, I WILL TELL YOU WHAT COMES NEXT.
I HAVE ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT I AM IN POSSESSION OF FIFTY MILLION MOLDS.


FWISH
EXECUTE THE MARK!
WORRRR

SHE IS HERE, JUST AS I THOUGHT.
WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT?
MURMUR
MURMUR
THE UNI-VERSE?
HUH?

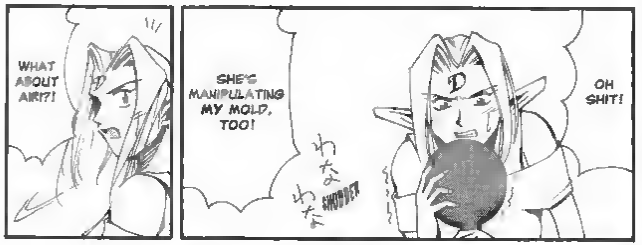

HEH HEH HEH
SO I SHALL SOON DEMONSTRATE MY POWER.
SWISH
YOU WON'T UNDER-STAND UNLESS YOU SEE IT...

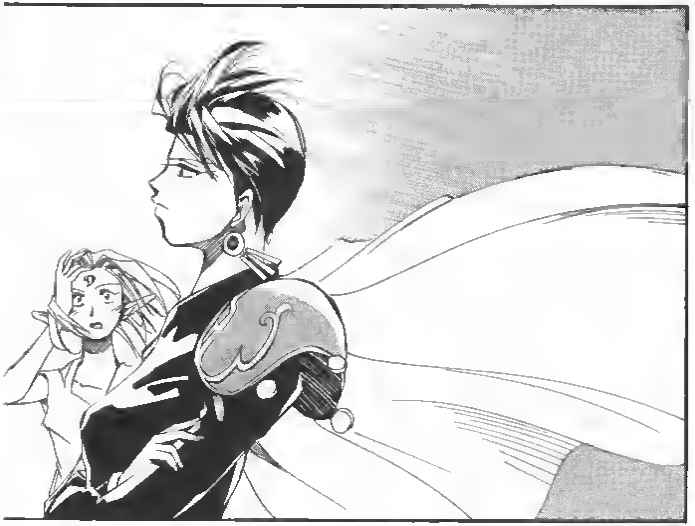
YOU WILL EXPOSE YOUR OWN LIMITATIONS!

AND WHEN YOU DO...
GO AHEAD, DAWN! SHOW US YOUR POWER

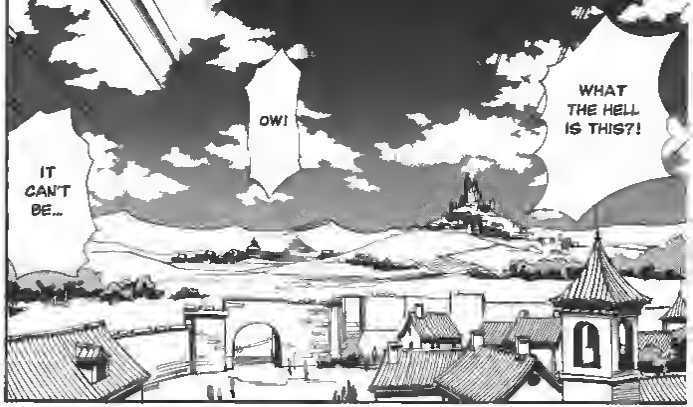
!!
WHAT THE-?!
.....
!!

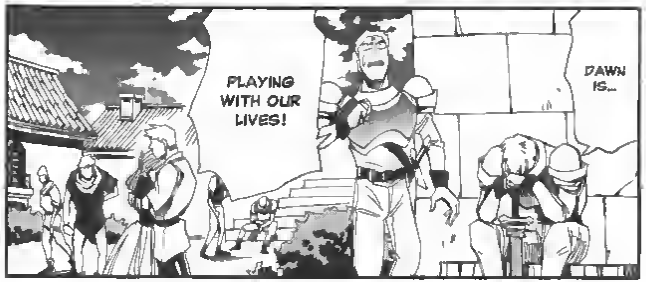
VZAP!!
ARGH!!
OUCH!
AAH!
?!
SLOOP





WAY TO GO, OFFWORLDER!





WE ARE UNDER HER CONTROL.
BUT EITHER WAY...
IT APPEARS SHE'S MADE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN US AND THE ENEMY.
STOP, KILICA
WHY DID YOU PUT THE MARKS ON US?! WE'RE WITH YOU!
MADAME DAWN!

I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS, BUT...

DAWN'S MAGIC HAS ABSOLUTELY NO EFFECT ON US...
I THINK.

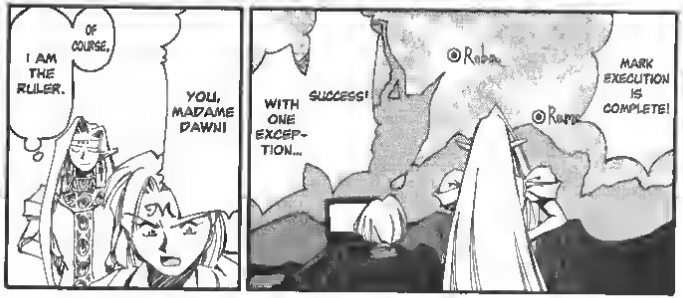
NO WAY!
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE.
NO EFFECT?!

DAWN ISN'T IN COMPLETE CONTROL.
THAT PROVES IT.

EVEN WE'VE BEEN MARKED.
WHY...

WHY DON'T YOU TWO HAVE A MARK?!

GWIP
GET READY, YOU BASTARDS!


I AM THE RULER.
OF COURSE.
YOU, MADAME DAWN!
WITH ONE EXCEPTION...
SUCCESS!
MARK EXECUTION IS COMPLETE!

OUR MAGIC RESERVES HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY DRAINED.
BUT MADAME DAWN!
DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF!
THE GROUND TROOPS SHOULD RETURN SOON!

THE WHOLE WORLD WILL BOW BEFORE ME!
grin
WITH THIS, THOSE FOOLS WILL LOSE THEIR FIGHT!

SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE WRONG WITH THE GROUND TROOPS...

WHAT?
.....

K-CHK
GAL'S UNIT IS BEING ELIMINATED!

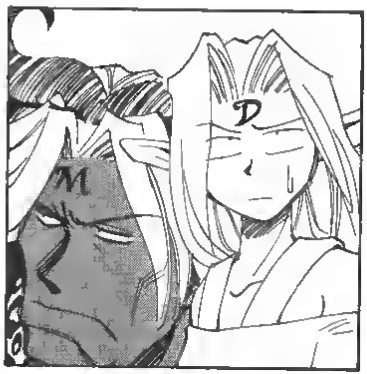
THWAM
THEY'RE NOT DEAD,
BUT THEY'RE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.
WHO'S DOING THIS? GET RID OF THEM, IMMEDIATELY!
BURN THEM!
BUT!
CRACK

KERSMASH

WE CAN'T DETECT ANYTHING USING THE STAR MAP
NO MOLD SHOWS UP!
CAN'T DETECT?
THIS MEANS THEY HAVE... NO MOLD?!
KRBAAM!!
I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR US TO FIGHT BACK.

making of #16

Why did I choose "D" and "M"? Sorry, I can't explain. Just think of it as an eternal mystery. At the office, we call them the *dorei* ("slave") and *mikata* ("ally") marks.



THOSE WHO HUNT ELVES

4

CREATOR YU YAGAMI

#17 復活

#17 Resurrection

AT ANY RATE, WE STILL HAVE TO CONFIRM IT.
THAT WOULD MAKE SENSE.
THEY COULD ALSO BE GOLEMS.
THEY MUST BE SKELETONS, OR ZOMBIES.
UMM, LET'S SEE...
tap
WHO IS CLOSEST TO THE BATTLE-FIELD?
WE STILL HAVE KILICA'S UNIT.
ELIMINATED GAU'S UNIT?
AN UNIDENTIFIED ENEMY...

I'M CERTAIN IT WAS A CLOSE-QUARTERS BATTLE, BUT...
WHO DEFEATED GAU'S UNIT?!
RUN THE SEARCH AGAIN!
THERE SHOULD BE NO LIFE FORM THAT CAN'T BE DETECTED BY THE STAR MAP.
I AM VERY DISPLEASED!! I WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE CONQUERED THE WORLD!
THAT'S IT!
MAAM?
IT MEANS THAT THE ENEMY IS NOT A "LIFE FORM."
WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE ENEMY, INCLUDING THEIR NUMBER.
NOTHING'S COMING UP ON THE MONITOR AT ALL!
FAMU!

SO BE IT.
HMM SHE'S THAT EAGER FOR GLORY, EH?
BUT IT APPEARS TO BE ONLY KILICA.
THEY'VE STARTED MOVING

YES MA'AM?
AND ONE MORE THING...
ALSO, LOOK FOR SUMMONING SORCERERS, JUST TO BE SURE.
IF THE ENEMY IS SOME KIND OF ZOMBIE, ITS HANDLER MIGHT BE CLOSE BY
WE HAVE MATTERS OF OUR OWN THAT REQUIRE INVESTIGATION
MA'AM!
I'LL BEGIN LOOKING FOR NECRO-MANCERS, MONKS AND ALCHEMISTS.

SKSH
THEY SHOULD BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE...

ALL OF YOU, WAIT HERE!
I'LL DO IT!
AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, CAPTURE ANY ELVES WE COME ACROSS
OUR ORDERS ARE TO GO TO THE BATTLEFIELD AND INVESTIGATE

BARTZ ALWAYS DOES EVERYTHING HIMSELF, AND IT'S PISSING ME OFF!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?!
KILICA!

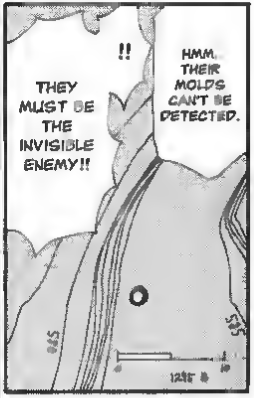
I WANT TO HANDLE THINGS ONCE IN A WHILE, TOO.

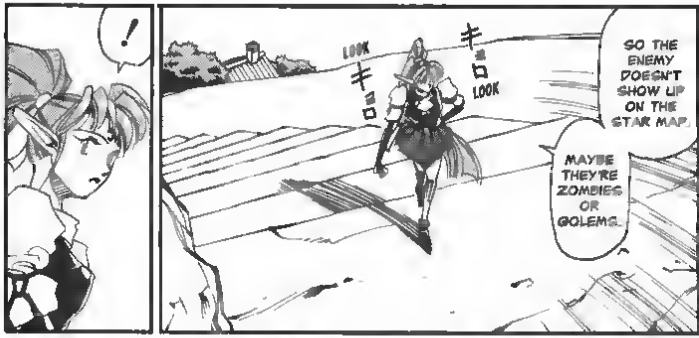
HAS THERE BEEN ANY TROUBLE AROUND HERE?

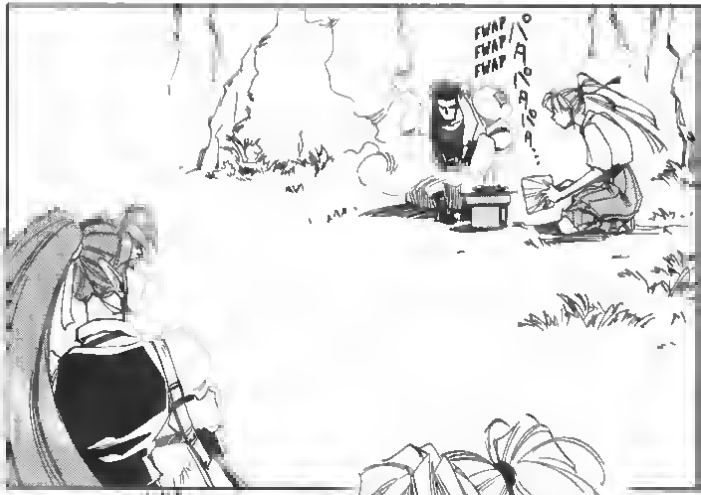
WE JUST GOT HERE.
DUNNO

WHO?
KILICA APPEARS TO BE TALKING WITH SOME PEOPLE.
...?

KILICA!


!!
THEY MUST BE THE INVISIBLE ENEMY!!
HMM. THEIR MOLDS CAN'T BE DETECTED.


!
LOOK
LOOK
SO THE ENEMY DOESN'T SHOW UP ON THE STAR MAP.
MAYBE THEY'RE ZOMBIES OR GOLEMS.


FWAP FWAP FWAP

HUNTING ELVES IS MY JOB, TOO!
WHAT?!

WHATEVER. JUST KEEP ON GRILLING YOUR FISH.
SCUFF

WHY?

IT'S MY JOB TO HUNT ELVES.

HAVE YOU SEEN ANY ELVES ON THIS HILL?
OH, YES. I FORGOT TO ASK...

?

THEN IT'S NOT JUST OUR FACES THAT ARE ALIKE.

OH!

!!
SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH KILICA'S MOLD!
KYAAA!
RRRUMBLE
A LAND-SLIDE?! NOW SHE'S FALLING!
THERE WAS A TERRIBLE SHOCK...
0
10
THE WORK OF THE INVISIBLE ENEMY?!
IS THIS...

KA-BOOM!
!!

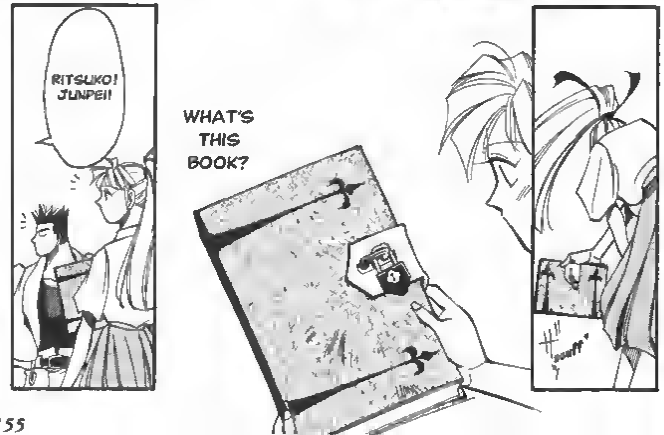
THE LAND-SLIDE
IT'S HEADING RIGHT TOWARD BARTZ'S TEAM!
FWWSH
SHOW THEM JUST HOW GOOD OUR ELITE UNIT IS!
WHAT?
AN EARTH-QUAKE?
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
RRRUMBLE

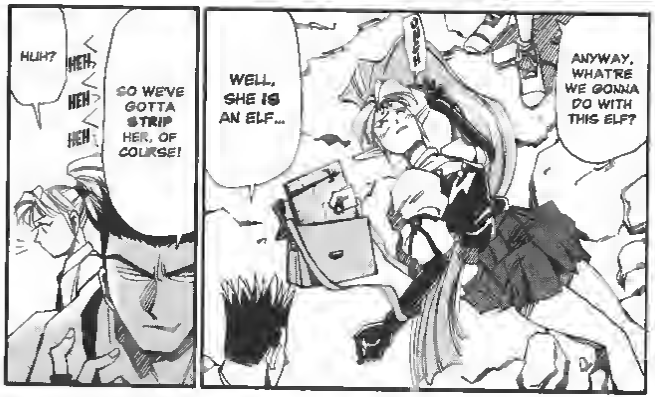
TUMBLE
TUMBLE
RRRUMBLE
WHAT?!
?!
NO, REVIVAL TECHNIQUES ARE STILL BEING TESTED! WE CAN'T USE THEM ON OUR TEAM YET!
SHOULD WE USE MOLD MANIPULATION TO REVIVE HER?
KILICA'S UNCON-SCIOUS!
Y, YES MA'AM!
SEND BARTZ AND TEESEN TO THE BATTLEFIELD!

IT CAN'T BE...
!!
ゴ...
CRUMBLE
ゴゴゴ
THUDD
KA-KRNK
ギギギ
SKRNCH
CRNCH
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

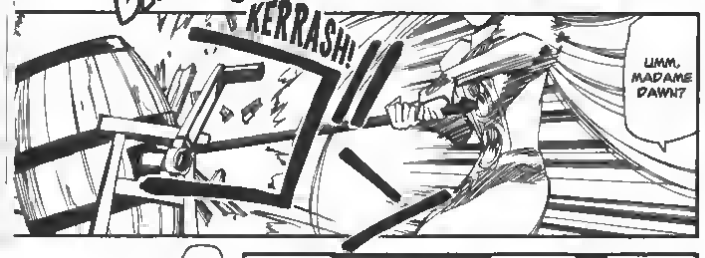
KA-BOOM!
!!
GAAARGH!

I'M SURE THEY WERE ALL ABANDONED
DON'T WORRY.
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU ALSO DESTROYED SOME PEOPLE'S HOUSES.
DID YOU USE TOO MUCH GUN-POWDER?

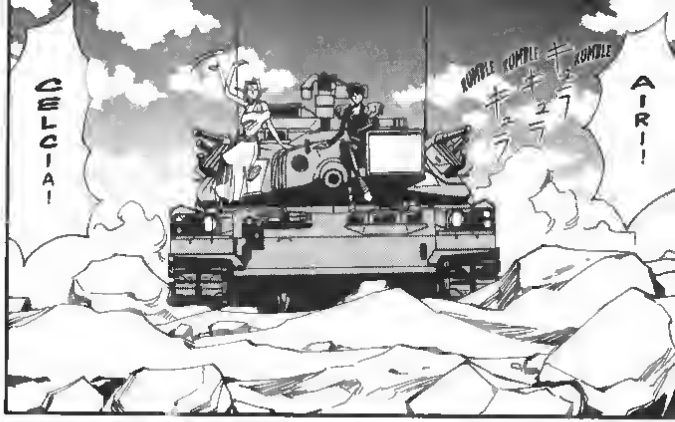

RITSUKO! JUNPEI!
WHAT'S THIS BOOK?

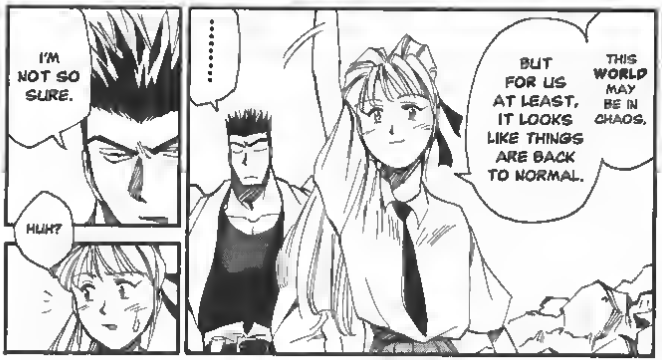

HUH?
HEH, HEH HEH
SO WE'VE GOTTA STRIP HER, OF COURSE!
WELL, SHE IS AN ELF...
ANYWAY, WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO WITH THIS ELF?

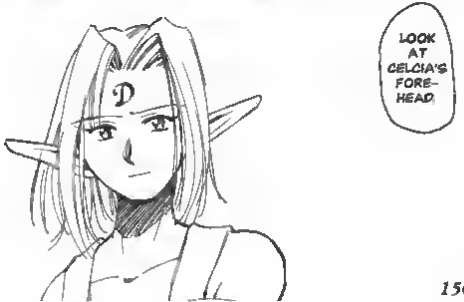
SMASH
YIAAAA!
MADAME DAWN!
BAAM!!!

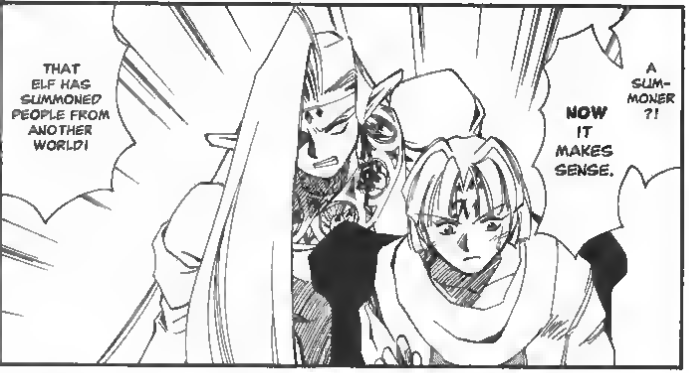

KERRASH!
UMM. MADAME DAWN?

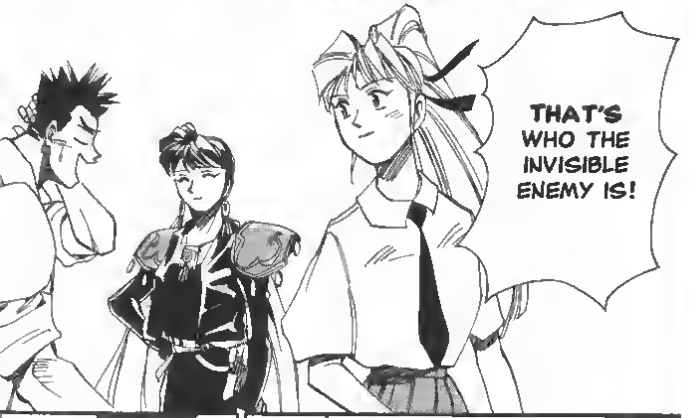
WHAT?
WE'VE IDENTIFIED THE INVISIBLE ENEMY.
I'M VENTING! COME BACK LATER!


CELCIA!
RUMBLE RUMBLE
キュラ
AIR!


I'M NOT SO SURE.
HUH?
.....
BUT FOR US AT LEAST, IT LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL.
THIS WORLD MAY BE IN CHAOS.

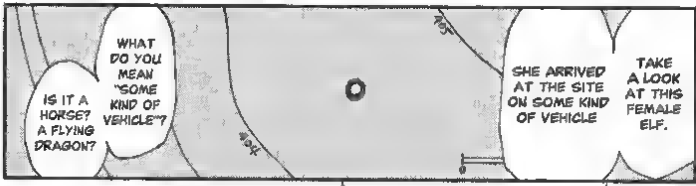

LOOK AT CELCIA'S FOREHEAD.

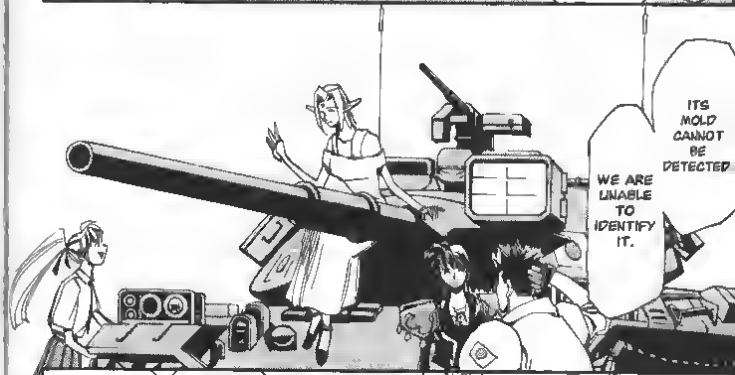

THAT ELF HAS SUMMONED PEOPLE FROM ANOTHER WORLD!
A SUMMONER?!
NOW IT MAKES SENSE.


THAT'S WHO THE INVISIBLE ENEMY IS!

WHAT?
WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OUR PLAN. TIME IS RUNNING OUT

NO. MANIPULATE THE MOLD. KILL THEM ALL.
DEPLOY THE REMAINING GROUND TROOPS?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?


IS IT A HORSE? A FLYING DRAGON?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "SOME KIND OF VEHICLE"?
SHE ARRIVED AT THE SITE ON SOME KIND OF VEHICLE
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS FEMALE ELF.


ITS MOLD CANNOT BE DETECTED
WE ARE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY IT.

AND OUR ANALYSIS TELLS US
THE ELF IS CURRENTLY TALKING WITH ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED BEING.
HMM
YOU MEAN ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIABLE ENEMY HAS APPEARED?

!!

THAT SHE SEEMS TO BE A GIFTED SUMMONER.

I'M NOT GONNA BLOW UP!
UMM...
PLEASE, THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, CELCIA!
GET REAL! YOU'VE GOT THE MARK ON YOUR FOREHEAD!
I'M SURE THERE'S A WAY TO KEEP THEM FROM BLOWING ME UP.
NO! LET ME FIGHT WITH YOU!!
YOU SHOULD GET AWAY FROM US, HIDE SOMEWHERE.
I'LL TURN INTO A DOG AGAIN!
I...I KNOW! I JUST NEED TO TRANS-FORM MYSELF

BLOW THAT SUMMONER TO PIECES IMMEDIATELY!

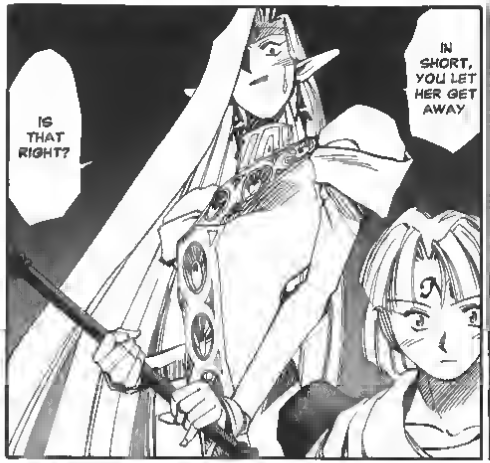
WE GOT THIS BOOK FROM THE ENEMY EARLIER.
TAKE A LOOK
HUH?
WHAT'S UP?
THANK YOU, GOD.
DON'T TOUCH THIS WINDOW, OR YOU'LL GET SUCKED IN, TOO
BE CARE-FUL!
FLIP
HELP ME!
GET ME OUT OF HERE!
FLIP
OH!
WHAT'S INSIDE?
!!
WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THIS?
ELVES... INSIDE A BOOK?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING! YOU COULD EXPLODE ANY SECOND NOW.
DON'T WORRY. IT'LL BE ALRIGHT.
PLEASE HELP ME!

.....
DON'T YOU? CELCIA?
YOU KNOW THAT ALL TOO WELL...
EVEN IF YOU TRANSFORM YOURSELF, YOU'RE STILL A LIFE FORM FROM THIS WORLD.
WHILE WE'RE SITTING HERE TALKING, DAWN'S ATTACK COULD START AT ANY TIME.
WHAT DO WE DO?
OKAY!
IT'S FINALLY OPEN!
KCHIK
I KNEW I COULDN'T RELY ON THAT RESERVE POWER...
DAMN!
WE HAVEN'T FINISHED CHARGING THE MAGICAL POWER
HURRY! BLOW HER UP!
THEY WILL PROVIDE THEIR MAGICAL POWER.
GATHER EVERYONE AVAILABLE INSIDE THE CASTLE.

grin
GOODBYE, SUMMONER!
READY TO FIRE AT YOUR COMMAND!
MAGICAL POWER IS AT 100%!
TARGET ACQUIRED!
GOOD.
FWIP
INCINERATE HER!

WELL THEN, TRY AND MAKE THAT D MARK GO AWAY!
I'M SURE I WON'T EXPLODE!
?
HEY, LOOK AT THE ELVES IN THE BOOK!
NONE OF THEM HAVE MARKS!
ピン
PING

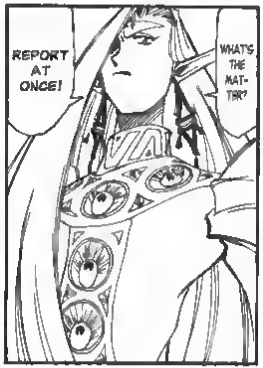
WHAT?!
RIGHT BEFORE WE EXECUTED THE COMMAND, THE MOLD DISAP-PEARED
AND FROM THE WAY IT DISAP-PEARED...


IS THAT RIGHT?
IN SHORT, YOU LET HER GET AWAY

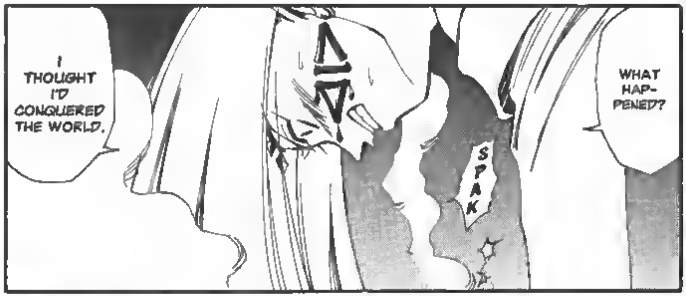
I THINK IT MIGHT HAVE MOVED INTO ANOTHER WORLD.

!!
BLIP
.....?!

JUST DISAP-PEARED!
THE TAR-GET...


REPORT AT ONCE!
WHAT'S THE MAT-TER?

IT CAN'T BE.
CLICK


I THOUGHT I'D CONQUERED THE WORLD.
SPAK
WHAT HAP-PENED?

WHO THE HELL ARE THEY?!

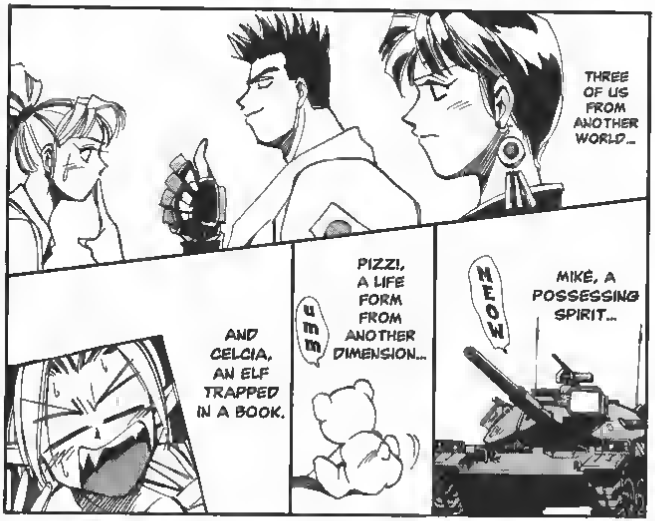
A-!!!
KERSMASH!!

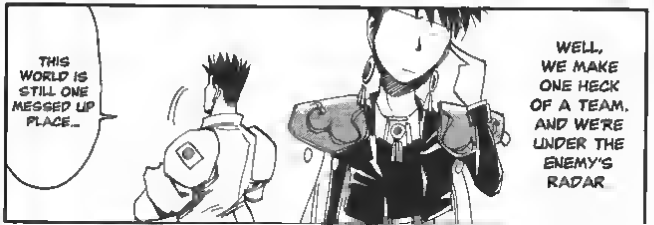
.....
PASHI
?!

CRAK
CRAK

BUT FOR THE TIME BEING, OUR DAILY LIFE IS BACK TO NORMAL.
HOW ABOUT MY DAILY LIFE, MORON!
TA-DAA
NOT A CLUE.
SO, HOW DO WE GET HER OUT?
I DON'T WANNA BE IN HERE! LET ME OUT!
SHUDDUP, PLUCKY!

SHE'S MOVING SHE'S MOVING!
SHUDDUP, IDIOT! YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL!
What have you DONE to me, Junpei?!


THREE OF US FROM ANOTHER WORLD...
AND CELCIA, AN ELF TRAPPED IN A BOOK.
um
PIZZI, A LIFE FORM FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION...
MEOW
MIKE, A POSSESSING SPIRIT...


THIS WORLD IS STILL ONE MESSED UP PLACE...
WELL, WE MAKE ONE HECK OF A TEAM. AND WE'RE UNDER THE ENEMY'S RADAR

東京パフューム
TOKYO PERFUME
vol.1
主な登場人物解説 (An Introduction to the Main Characters)
YU YAGAMI
A strange comics author who doesn't know much about Tokyo except his publishing company and curry restaurants (even though he's lived in Tokyo for a long time)
EDITOR A
He is a rare editor these days (though he takes pride that his desk is cleaner than anyone else's). He has a pet dog that can draw comics

making of #17

What is "Plucky Elf"? I'm sure some readers don't have the slightest idea what it means. And I'm not going to explain. Grin.

Tokyo Map2

TOKYO STATION

It's a handsome building with a brick exterior. I pass through this station a lot, but haven't had a chance to walk around there. It's one of those stations that I don't know well, but I'm familiar with

EXPLANATION OF WORDS

PERFUME

Originally from the Latin *per fumare*, meaning "to fill with smoke." Later it became the French *parfum*, meaning "fragrance" (as in a pleasant smell). Here, "Tokyo Perfume" means "the scent of Tokyo."

Tokyo
IT AIN'T THAT FAR. JUST A QUICK TRIP BY BULLET TRAIN.
SO THIS IS TOKYO!
WHOA, HER ACCENT IS LIKE MINE!
SMILE
WHERE'RE YOU FROM?
SURE, BUT...
I'M FROM OSAKA. CAN YA HELP ME GET AROUND TOKYO?
HE MISTOOK "KYOTO" FOR "TOKYO" AND GOT OFF AT THE WRONG STATION.
WHAT?
SOB SOB...

Tokyo Map1

MR. A'S DESK AT MEDIAWORKS

"IS THE DRAFT READY YET?"

The unwelcome phone calls originate here. His office is a five-minute walk from the JR Ochanomizu Station. It's equipped with a bath, a bed set, and clothes for all kinds of weather. No matter how busy he is, his office is amazingly neat!

Perfume
EDITOR A
WHAT? TOKYO VACUUM?!
MR. YAGAMI, LET'S USE THE TITLE "TOKYO PERFUME."
OH, I SEE. IT SOUNDS STINKY... LIKE A SEWER VACUUM.
NO, PERFUME. YOU KNOW, FRA-GRANCE.
HUH?!
ARE YOU THINKING OF A SEWER VACUUM TRUCK? THAT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT.
WHAT AN IDIOT...
WHAT'S A "PERFUME TRUCK"?

Tokyo Map4

HOKO-TEN

Hoko-Tens aren't limited to Ginza. Many cities have them. I didn't know about Hoko-Tens until I started drawing this manga and Editor A had fun laughing at me. I really thought Hoko-Ten was a kind of fish tempura.

EXPLANATION OF WORDS

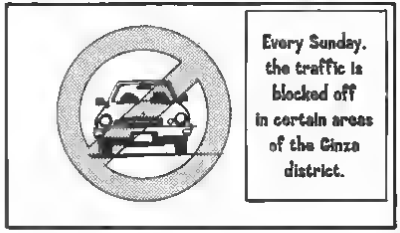
HOKO

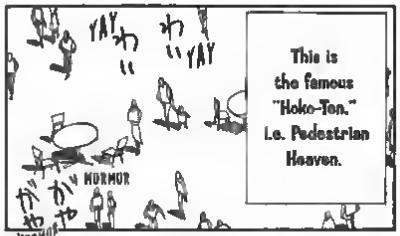
A fish similar to the pike conger, which inhabits the Sea of Japan. It is tasty as tempura. (From an "Encyclopedia of Fish That May or May Not Exist" by Yu Yagami)

TEMPURA

Deep-fried fish or vegetables coated with batter. (From "Sanseido Japanese Dictionary")

Hoko-Ten



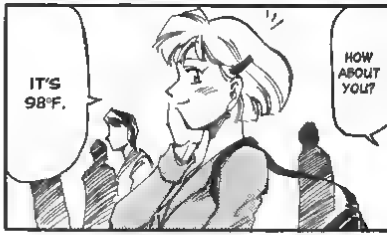


Tokyo Map3

THERMOMETER

There is no way a thermometer would be listed on a map. When I was young, I used to take my temperature a lot because I thought I wouldn't have to go to school if I had a fever.

Prejudice



Tokyo Map6

YAMANOUE HOTEL

I haven't asked if they have Awamori or Kiritanpo in their menu, but it's supposed to be one of the top class hotels in Japan. When I mentioned that I'd never heard of it, Editor A laughed at me. By the way, you can get there from the publisher's office in just nine seconds if you jump out a window, ignore the red lights, and run as fast as you can.

EXPLANATION OF WORDS

AWAMORI

A potent alcohol from Okinawa (also called the Ryukyu Islands). It's made from rice, and goes very well with the local dishes, such as champuru. Aged Awamori is called Kusu.

KIRITANPO

A local rice dish from Akita. It's tasty either grilled or in a hot pot.

BEEF

Beef recently became a dangerous food in England. But in Japan, you can enjoy delicious (but expensive) Japanese beef in high class restaurants.

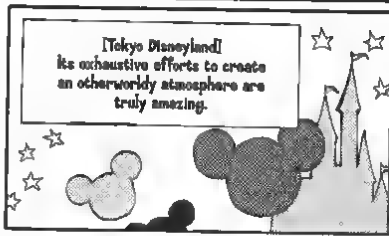
Wonder of Tokyo

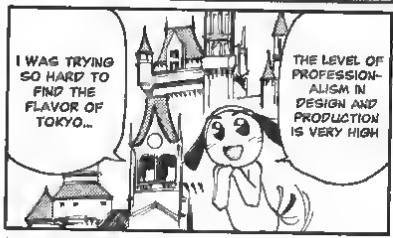
Tokyo Map5

TOKYO DISNEYLAND

Freelance professionals would normally go to a place like Disneyland during the week. But I didn't plan ahead, and I went on a Saturday, so Editor A laughed at me. I'm afraid he enjoys looking for reasons to laugh at me.

Don't Forget





Tokyo Disneyland is actually located in Chiba Prefecture.

Tokyo Map8

THE PATENT OFFICE

Since I didn't know the exact location, I just got in a taxi and told the driver to go to the Patent Office. The driver dropped me off in front of the building in the picture above. I thought the Patent Office building would look special, but it was an ordinary building.

EXPLANATION OF WORDS

TOKYO TOKKYO KYOKA KYOKU

No such institution exists

TOKYO BEAM

A large caliber beam that operates on the collected power output of all of Tokyo. It has not been authorized for use by the Defense Agency yet.

A Calling

IS THERE ANY JOB WHERE I CAN USE THIS TALENT?
I'M GOOD AT TONGUE TWISTERS
EXCUSE ME, MISS?
HOW ABOUT A COMEDIAN?
YOU SHOULD BE A NEWS-CASTER!
A TELEPHONE OPERA-TOR?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A TELEPHONE OPERATOR?
HELLO, TOKYO TOKKYO KYOKA KYOKU.
RRRR

Tokyo Map7

TOKYO DOME

I went there once to see a baseball game. The difference in air pressure I felt at the entrance really impressed me. It doesn't make sense to me why the size of the field and the height of the fence are different at each ball field.

Fukuoka and Osaka have them, too.

WHAT IS IT, DOCTOR?
THE TOKYO DOME HAS A DANGEROUS SECRET.
JUST BY CHANGING LETTERS?!
JUST BY CHANGING A COUPLE OF LETTERS, IT CAN TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO THE NEWEST WEAPON.
BE A DOME → BEAM!
I WANNA SEE IT! IT SOUNDS AWESOME!!
VGOO
IT'S CALLED THE "TOKYO BEAM!"

McDONALD'S IN OCHANOMIZU

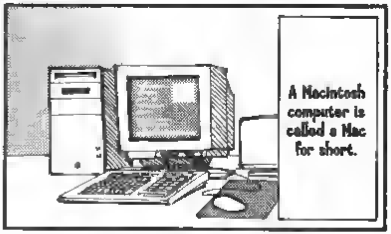
My personal favorite is eating a double cheeseburger while walking. Those soft, slappy looking French fries are tasty. The prices are super-cheap these days and that makes me kinda happy. I wish I could live there

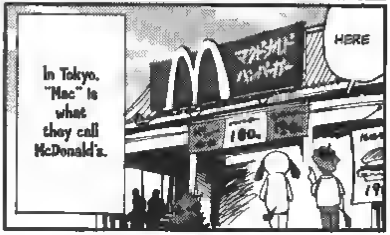
EXPLANATION OF WORDS

I USE A MAC TO WORK ON MY MANGA. REALLY.

Manga authors can use a Macintosh to work on color drafts. It's a great tool once you really learn how to use it. It often makes the impossible, possible.

Yagami is from Osaka, so he calls it MCD's.

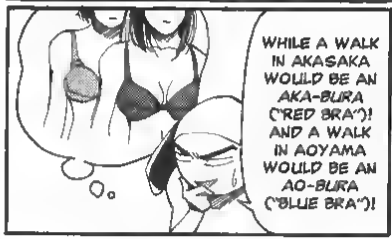


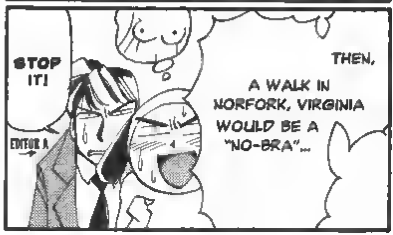


GINZA

Ginza is far away, but I go there a lot because there are several shops there I like. There are expensive boutiques, and it's fun to walk around and window shop. It's one of the places I would like to live.

Various Bras





However...
Ahh
WAAA
In situations like this, manga authors either hire more helpers, stop sleeping, skip meals, or disappear.
I may not be able to finish in time for the deadline!
who handles his crises with a RAIN DANCE.
RAIN!
RAIN!
FWIP
this is ONE manga author...

完全ノンフィクション
TOTALLY NON-FICTION

嵐を呼ぶ漫画家
"THE MANGA AUTHOR WHO SUMMONS STORMS"

矢上 裕
YU YAGAMI

Since Yagami moved his office, everyone has to commute.
SKETCH
SKETCH
BUT TONIGHT, ALL OF US HAVE TO WORK THROUGH THE NIGHT
THIS IS THE TIME MY ASSIS-TANTS USUALLY GO HOME...
glare
A PILE OF BLANK PAPER THAT LOOKS LIKE MT. FUJI
whoaaaa
ぬおおお
Some Month. Some Day close to a deadline

Tokyo Map11

TOKYO DESERT

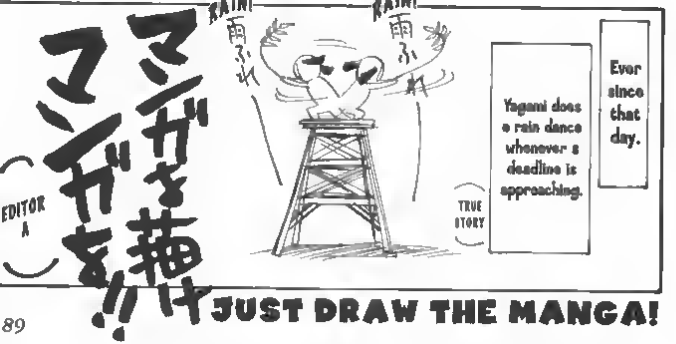
A mysterious desert that can only be seen by certain people. I've never seen it, and it's not on any map, either. However, it does show up as the title to some popular oldies songs, or in the names of bars

No matter how far you go
I'VE NEVER SEEN IT.
IS THERE SUCH A PLACE IN TOKYO?
I THINK
EXCUSE ME, I'M LOOKING FOR...
JR SHINJUKU
I'M IN A HURRY.
WHY DON'T YOU CONTACT THE METRO-POLITAN GOVERNMENT OFFICE?
EDITOR A
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU LOOKING FOR, MR YAGAMI?
IT'S NO GOOD! IT ISN'T EVEN ON THE MAP!
KA-CHAK
YOU JUST KEEP WANDERING, YOU IDIOT— FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!
THE TOKYO DES-ERT!

I'M SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU.
NO PROBLEM. STAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.
YOU'D BETTER STAY HERE UNTIL IT STOPS RAINING.
THAT'S TOO BAD.

.....
TOTALLY BLANK
STAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.
WHILE YOU'RE HERE, CAN YOU DO SOME WORK?

Those Who Hunt Elves
YU YAGAMI
Thanks to Mr. Ohko, who stayed and worked all night, the manuscript was finished on schedule.


マンガを描け!!
JUST DRAW THE MANGA!
EDITOR A
RAIN!
RAIN!
雨ふれ
雨ふれ
TRUE STORY
Yagami does a rain dance whenever a deadline is approaching.
Ever since that day.

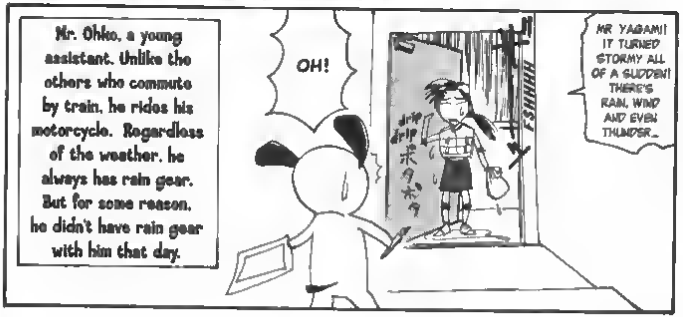
SLAM
.....

GOOD NIGHT!
GOOD NIGHT!
HAVE A NICE EVENING! SEE YOU TOMORROW!

STOMP STOMP STOMP
Yagami's so timid that he has difficulty asking them to work late.
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?!
OH NO! WHY DIDN'T I ASK THEM TO WORK LATE?

RUMBLE RUMBLE
FLASH

GRR
I CAN STILL GO AFTER THEM
AND BRING THEM BACK TO THE OFFICE!


Mr. Ohko, a young assistant. Unlike the others who commute by train, he rides his motorcycle. Regardless of the weather, he always has rain gear. But for some reason, he didn't have rain gear with him that day.
OH!
MR YAGAMI! IT TURNED STORMY ALL OF A SUDDEN! THERE'S RAIN, WIND AND EVEN THUNDER...
drip drip ポタポタ
FSHHH

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

Those Who Hunt Elves Vol 04

PG. 191 Wonder of Tokyo

This page introduces some examples of famous regional specialties. Just like in Chinese cooking, each region in Japan has their own local dishes, as well as their own unique way of seasoning standard Japanese dishes.

PG. 192 Tokyo Beam

In Japanese both 'dome' and 'beam' are written in katakana, which is a set of characters used to write foreign words. The only difference between the katakana characters for 'do' and 'be' is one stroke. So the joke is that by adding one stroke to the Japanese word for 'dome,' it becomes 'beam.' Tokyo Dome is home to the Tokyo Yomiuri Giants and the Japan Ham Fighters, a baseball franchise. It also hosts various sports, concerts and trade shows.

PG. 193 Tokyo Tokkyo Kyoka Kyoku

This phrase is a favorite tongue twister in Japan that plays with the name for the Tokyo Patent Agency.

PG. 194 Gin-bura

This bit of punnery took the first part of some famous place names and tacked on one half of the term *bura-bura*, meaning to wander/loiter about. As you've probably guessed, *gin* is silver, *aka* is red, and *ao* is blue. By the way, both Akasaka and Aoyama are other areas of Tokyo and both are known for fashionable boutiques and upscale residential neighborhoods.

PG. 198 Tokyo Desert

Tokyo is a large city with a huge population, like New York City. So the general impression is that people in Tokyo are not friendly and are very dry. Of course, it is only a generalization and is not always true. But the term 'Tokyo Desert' is used often in a kind of popular Japanese song that is similar to country western songs. It refers to this area as a place where the water of human kindness (so some would say) does not flow.

PG. 10 Akihabara

Akihabara is an area in Tokyo well known to techno geeks. Glittering electronics shops of all sizes are located in the area around Chuo-dori Avenue, to the west of Akihabara Station. You can go from one store to the next and have fun shopping while haggling over prices. If you turn down a narrow aisle lined with stalls, you'll enter a wonderland with piles of motherboards, bins of processors, and heaps of electronic components.

PG. 178 Vacuum and Perfume

When written in Japanese, 'vacuum' and 'perfume' look alike (but obviously, their meaning is different). The now obsolete vacuum tracks were introduced in Japan soon after WWII, and used to collect waste for proper disposal.

PG. 177 Tokyo and Kyoto

Kyoto is the ancient capital of Japan and is one station away from Osaka by bullet train, about 60 miles in the distance. Osaka and Kyoto share some commonalities, but distinctly different from the Tokyo dialect.

PG. 179 Hoko-Ten

Hoko Ten is short for *hokosha* (pedestrian) *tengoku* (heaven). Several blocks in the Ginza area are blocked off to motor vehicles so that pedestrians can enjoy walking and shopping leisurely.

PG. 180 Tokyo Disneyland

This amusement park was built in 1983 in Chiba Prefecture, outside of the Metropolitan Tokyo Area. Since its hugely successful opening, the park has expanded to include a Sea Park, hotels, shopping areas, etc. It attracts visitors in droves from all over Japan and other countries in Asia.

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